1956

excalibur

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Excalibur

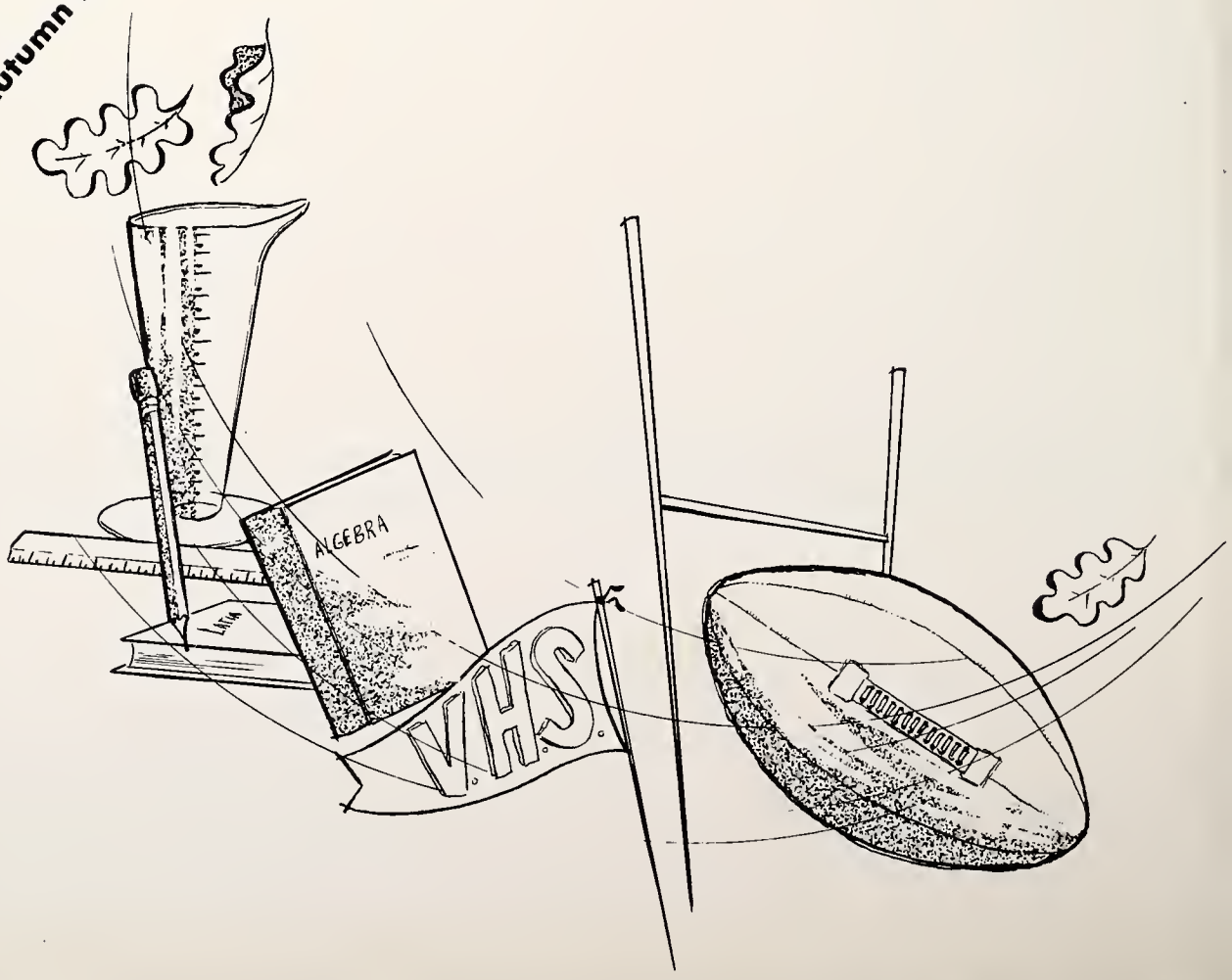
Nineteen Hundred Fifty Six

VAN WERT HIGH SCHOOL — VAN WERT, OHIO

Editor — Anita Tanner
Associate Editor — Vern Laing
Advisor — Mrs. Josephine Burkam

Autum

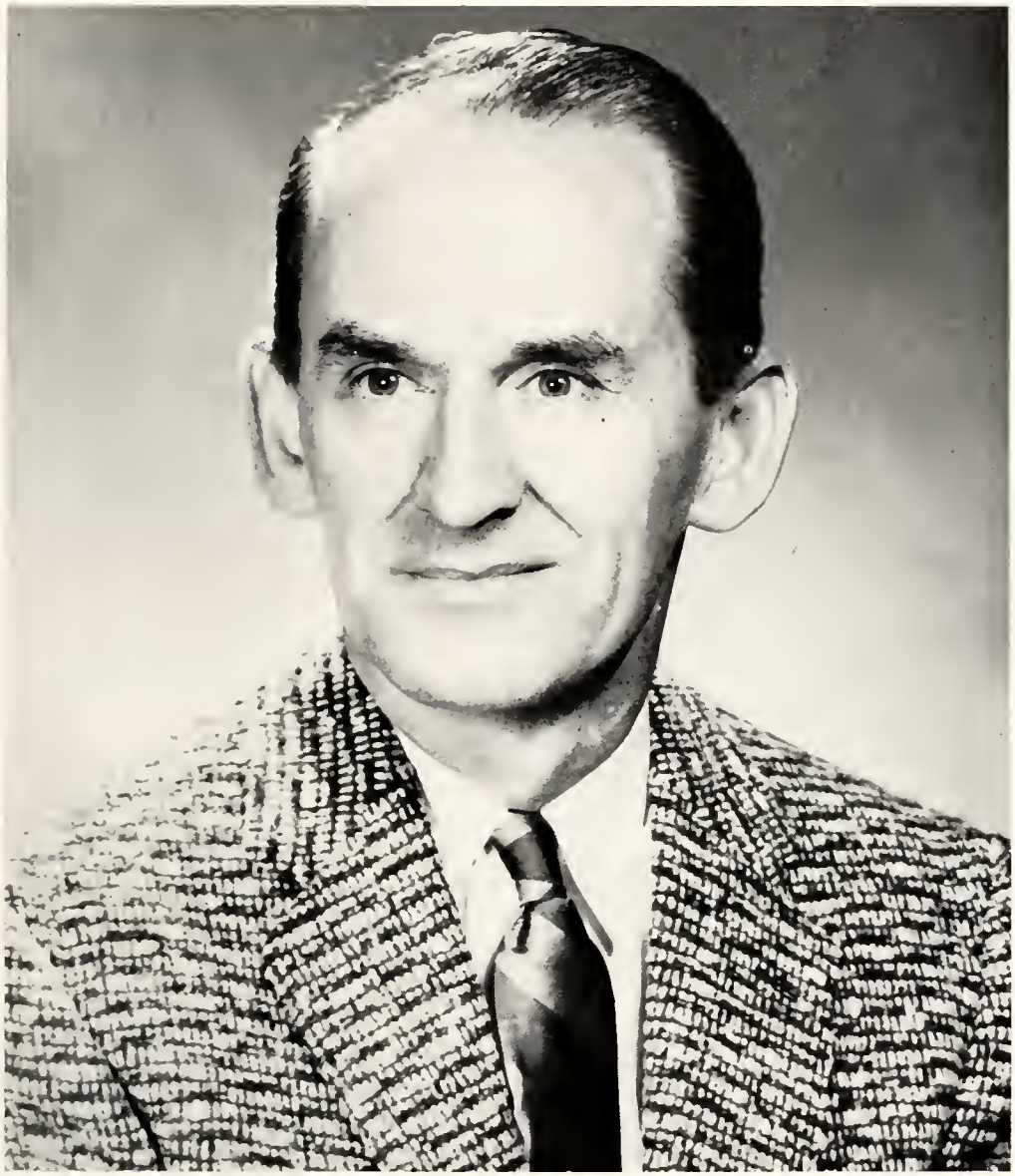
Autumn leaves, homecoming festivities, wiener roasts, blue slips, new freshmen



faces, barbecues, football thrills — memories are made of these

O Van Wert High, the school we love!

DEDICATION



MR. HERBERT JONES

The Class of 1956 has chosen you, Mr. Jones, to receive the highest tribute we can pay. Your untiring effort and excellent musicianship have given all of us at Van Wert High an appreciation for really good music. The interest you have shown in us, both in musical organizations and in our individual problems, has meant more than we can say. To you, therefore, we dedicate this thirty-seventh volume of the *Excalibur*.

Cheerleaders

Peg Brown, Elaine Mericle, Sue Farlow, Diane Roth, Janice Prior, Linda Bagley.

Coaches

Gilbert Smith, Nicholas Klutka, Otis Coon.

Managers

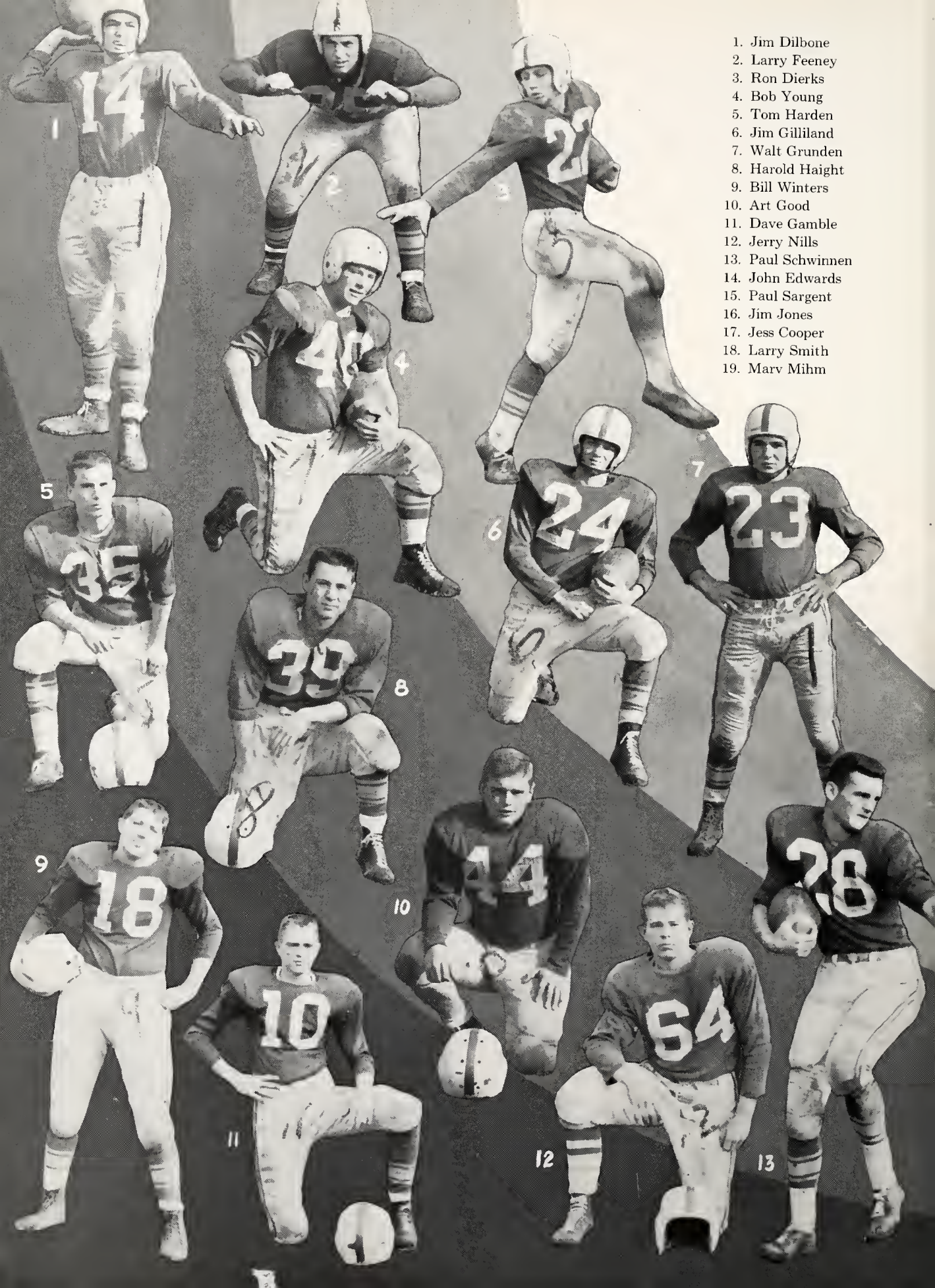
Tom Nelson, Jack White.

First Row: Jack White, Walt Grunden, Jim Dilbone, Jim Gilland, Jess Cooper, Tom Harden, Jim Jones, Bob Young, Art Good, Marvin Mihm, Harold Haight, Paul Sargent, Tom Nelson.

Second Row: Coach Smith, Ronnie Dierks, Jerry Nills, Bill Winters, Paul Schwinnen, Larry Feeney, Larry Smith, Dave Gamble, Jerry Baer, Bob Mohr, John Edwards, Coach Coon, Coach Klutka.

Third Row: Don Black, Chuck Kanney, Onley Heath, Larry Johnson, Roger Gipe, Dick O'Mara, Terry Oetzel, George White, Danny Butler, Charles Young, Howard Shaw, Jim Imler.

Football fans and players enjoy a season of thrills



1. Jim Dilbone
2. Larry Feeney
3. Ron Dierks
4. Bob Young
5. Tom Harden
6. Jim Gilliland
7. Walt Grunden
8. Harold Haight
9. Bill Winters
10. Art Good
11. Dave Gamble
12. Jerry Nills
13. Paul Schwinnen
14. John Edwards
15. Paul Sargent
16. Jim Jones
17. Jess Cooper
18. Larry Smith
19. Marv Mihm

Cougar Lettermen Spark '55 Champs

Once more Van Wert has had an undefeated football team, winning eight games and tying one. The Cougar seniors have been unbeaten two years in succession and have lost only two games in their entire football career. This year it was more difficult than ever to remain undefeated because the Cougars were the special target of every team.

During the early part of the season the team, lacking experience, had a rough time, but with each win the boys gained confidence and played real football. Once past Toledo and Wapak, they rolled up the victories and climaxed the season by beating St. Marys and giving Coach Smith his hundredth win for Van Wert High.

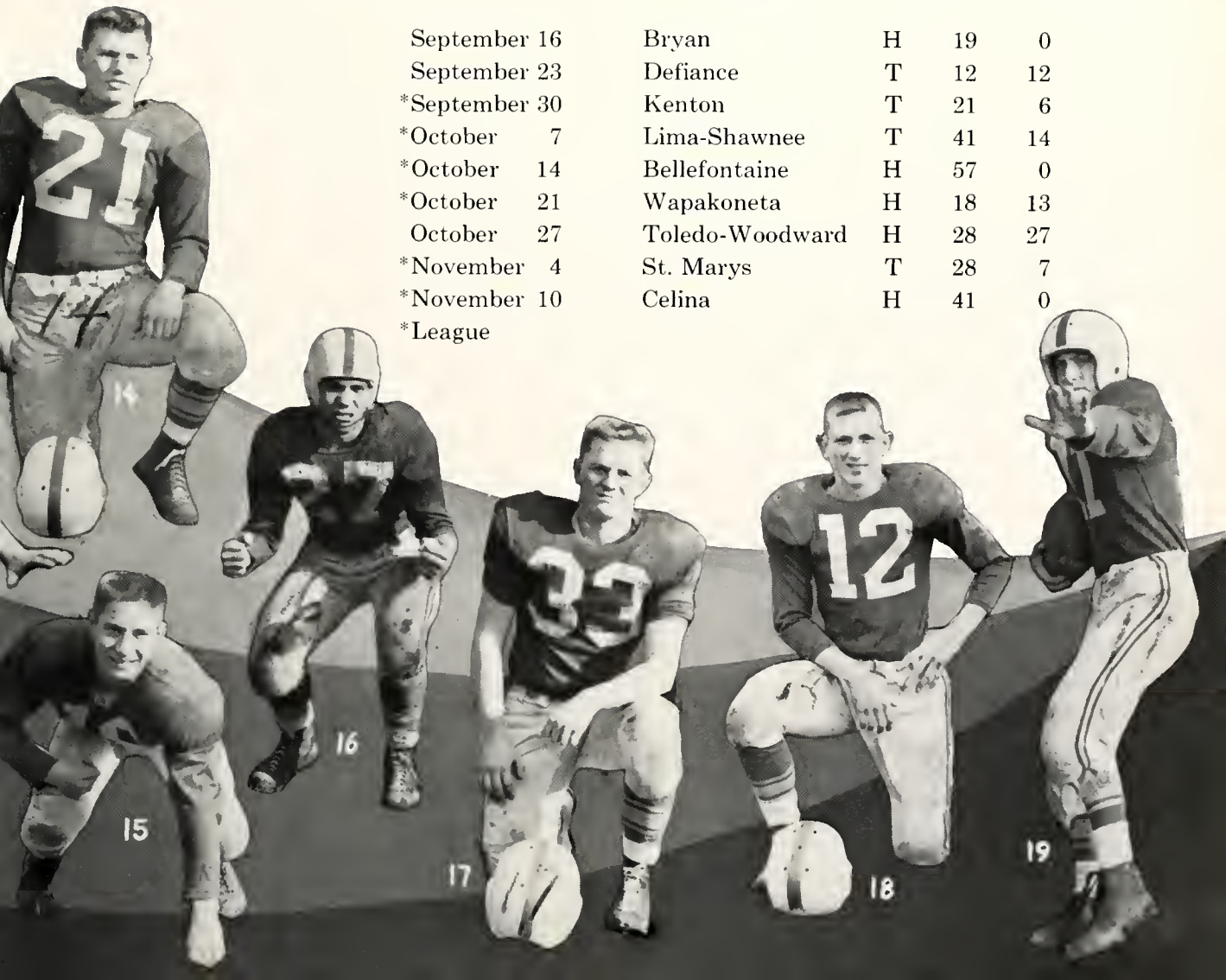
Besides winning honors as a team, the Cougars received some high individual honors. Named to the Western Buckeye League first offensive team were Larry Feeney, tackle; John Edwards, guard; Jim Jones, center; Bob Young, fullback; and Ron Dierks, halfback. Places on the first defensive League team went to linebackers Jim Jones and Jim Dilbone. Dilbone also rated the All-State first team and Jones made the All-State third team. Bob Young was chosen for a position on the Ohio All-Star Team, which saw action in Canton in August. Congratulations to the team and the coaching staff on this record of two years without defeat.

If anybody can do it, Smitty can!

Schedule

September 16	Bryan	H	19	0
September 23	Defiance	T	12	12
*September 30	Kenton	T	21	6
*October 7	Lima-Shawnee	T	41	14
*October 14	Bellefontaine	H	57	0
*October 21	Wapakoneta	H	18	13
October 27	Toledo-Woodward	H	28	27
*November 4	St. Marys	T	28	7
*November 10	Celina	H	41	0

*League



First Row: Don Beck, Jim Bebout, Gary Patterson, Bob Matthias, Rod Johnson. Second Row: Larry Holden, Jim Bell, Bob Stevens, Rodger Bechtol, Carl Witherow, Pat Hallam, Phil Holtkamp, Larry Summersett, David Price. Third Row: Coach Stoops, Brad Bebout, Clyde Ford, Tom Reynolds, Bryce Fauble, Jack Fraker, Ray McCollum, Dave Shupe, Larry Vaughn, Don Smitley.

Freshman Football— the lettermen of tomorrow

Each year the coaching staff of Van Wert High School provides a football class for the younger boys who hope to play varsity football. This is called the freshman football team. This year the beginners played five games and came out with the short end of the score: Defiance 14-0, Coldwater 8-6, St. Marys 27-0, Delphos 12-0, and Shawnee 17-0. You must not criticize the coach or the players for this record for the simple reason that the boys were out there to learn the fundamentals of football and not necessarily to win. With the basic training and the experience acquired this year, many of these players will be able to win positions on the Varsity come next fall.

Coach Jim Stoops

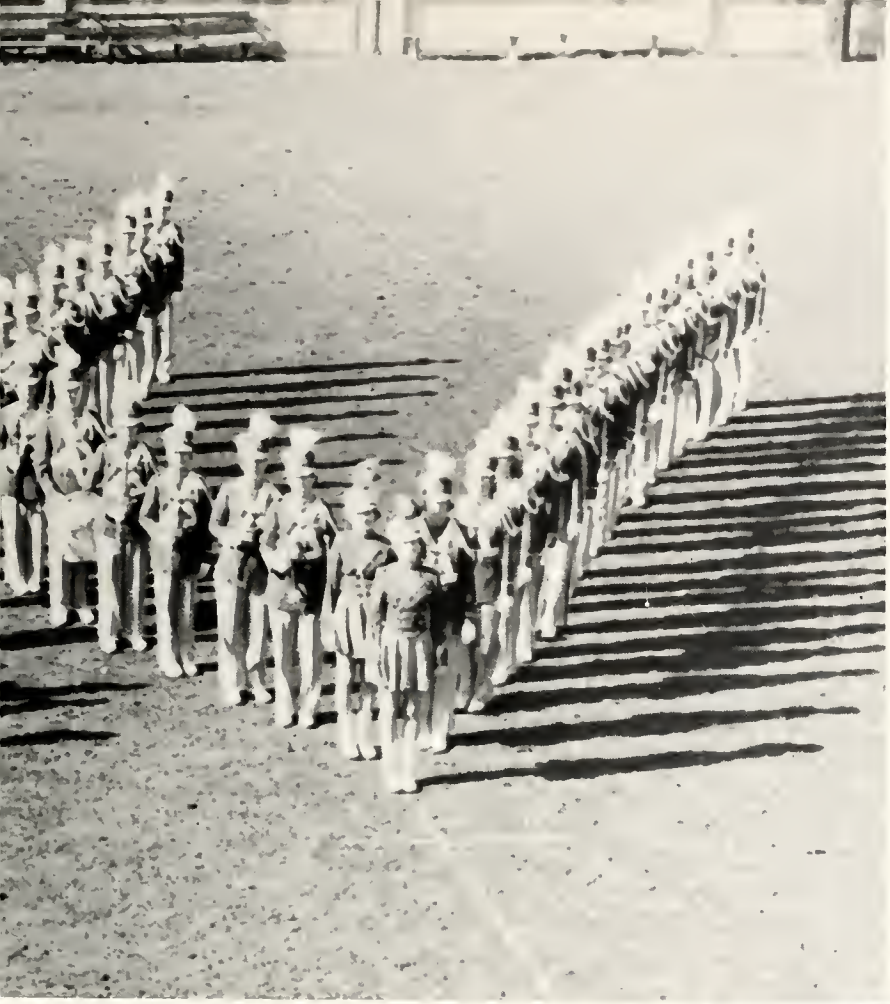
28
31
40
12

22
43

15

Drum Major: Sally Coombs. Majorettes: First Row: Rachel Morris, Sue Williman, Beverly Blake. Second Row: Lynnda Learey, Linda Kirchenbauer.

Director Jones — No Comment



Marching Band

The Marching Band, directed by Mr. Herbert Jones, averages one hundred students. This year the band looked really sharp at the football games in their new uniforms of red and gray with white cross belts, spats, and gloves. The band participates in Memorial Day, Peony Festival, and Fall Festival parades. It also adds color and zest to the Van Wert County Fair.

Buenos noches, seniors
Forward, ho!
Ten-shun!

Homecoming Queen **Linda Kirchenbauer**

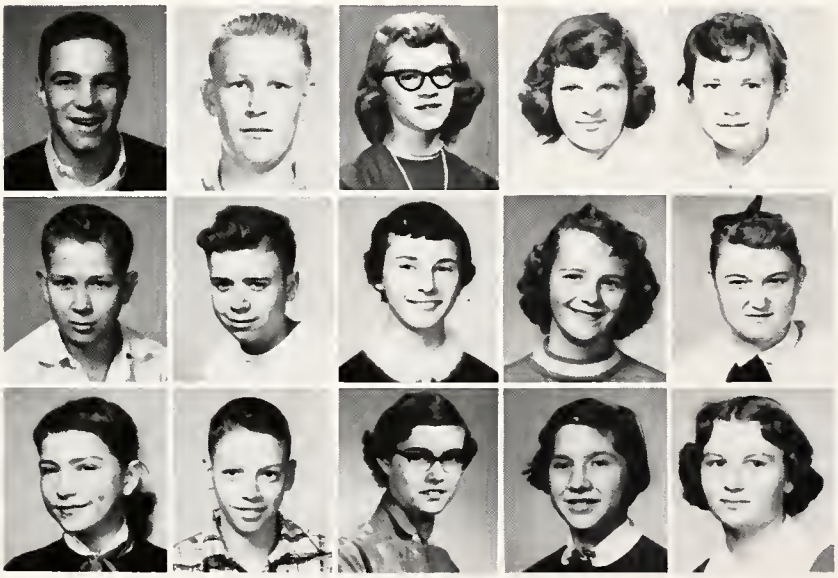
Queen Linda and her court reign over the festivities

Linda Kirchenbauer was crowned Homecoming Queen during the impressive half-time ceremony at the Bellfontaine football game. After the game, Queen Linda reigned over the Homecoming dance.

Freshmen, innocent and unwary, have their first glimpse of high school life

First Row: Sara Lee Agler, Nancy Andrews, Sandra Arnold, Rachael Balliet, Carol Baxter.

Second Row: Brad Bebout, Jim Bebout, Rodger Bechtol, Donald Beck, Joan Beck.



First Row: Jim Bell, Larry Betts, Suzy Binkley, Dorcas Blackmore, Marsha Blake.

Second Row: Terry Jo Blue, Lewis Bowen, Nancee Brown, Bonnie Caldwell, Judy Chesbro.

Third Row: Rosalyn Coffelt, Louis Crow, Janet Davis, Joyce Davis, Louise DeCamp.

First Row: Margaret DeMoss, Nellie Dempsey, Dorothy Doner, Sara Drury, Pat Dunlap.

Second Row: Dick Dunno, Barbara Ellerbrock, Barbara Ellis, David Elzey, Gloria Evans.

Third Row: Pamela Foster, Bryce Fauble, David Fell, Patricia Finkhousen, Clyde Ford.

First Row: Jack Fraker, Marjorie Gallaway, Judith Geary, Karen Geisman, James Gilbert.

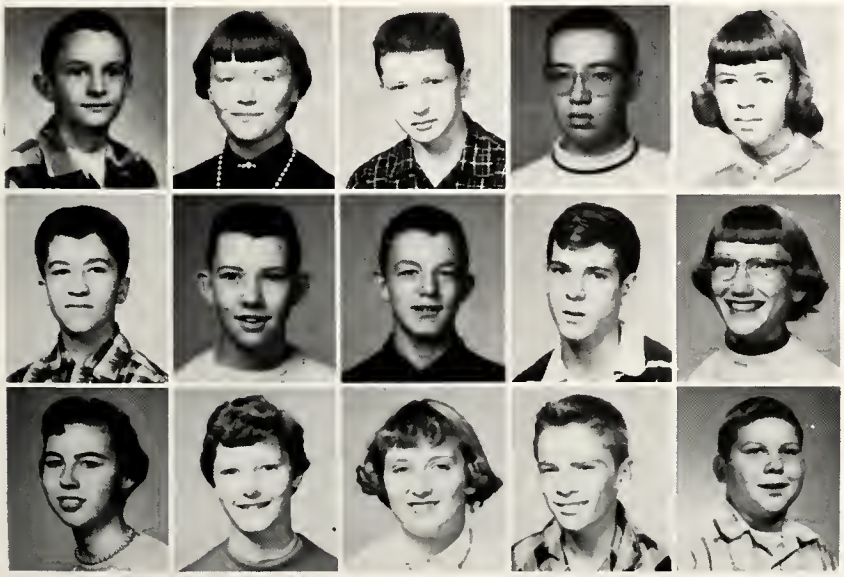
Second Row: Carolyn Gilland, Jerry Goins, Kay Goins, Ann Good, Lonnie Gray.

Third Row: Claudia Green, Ann Gribler, Susan Gribler, Sherry Hall, Patrick Hallam.

First Row: Roberta Harden, Gertrude Hardman, Gail Harley, Roberta Hartman, Virginia Harvey.

Second Row: Gary Heckert, Karen Heffner, Terry Hipsley, Jean Hirn, Elsie Hoeken.

Third Row: Larry Holden, Philip Holtkamp, Connie Hosford, David Hoverman, Dick Hoverman.



First Row: Clarence Huffine, Janice Huffine, Charles Ingman, Harvey Ireton, Trina Jackson.

Second Row: Larry Johnson, Rod Johnson, Tim Jones, Paul Kaduk, Corrine Katterheinrich.

Third Row: Mary Ellen Keith, Helen Keirns, Carol Jean Kinsey, Larry Klausing, Gordon Knittle.

First Row: Dick Knodel, Linda Kreischer, Max Kreischer, Jack Krick, Linda Krick.

Second Row: Shirley Lane, Dan Lewis, Tom Lewis, Nancy Louth, Linda McCarty.

Third Row: Judy McCollum, Ray McCollum, David Malinowski, Bob Matthias, Barbara Miller.

First Row: Bill Miller, Max Miller, Oscar Miller, Robert Miller, Sandra Miller.

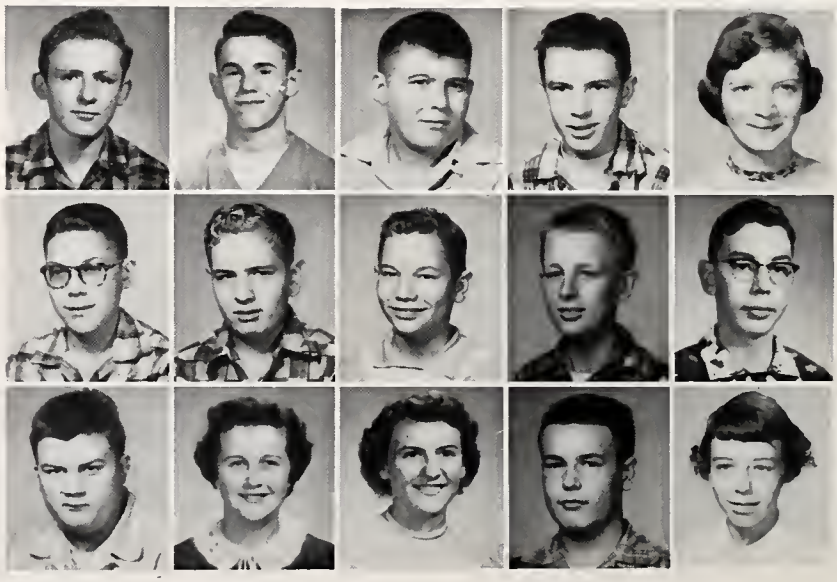
Second Row: Tim Miller, Richard Milner, Carolyn Mosier, Jim Murphy, Mary Murphy.

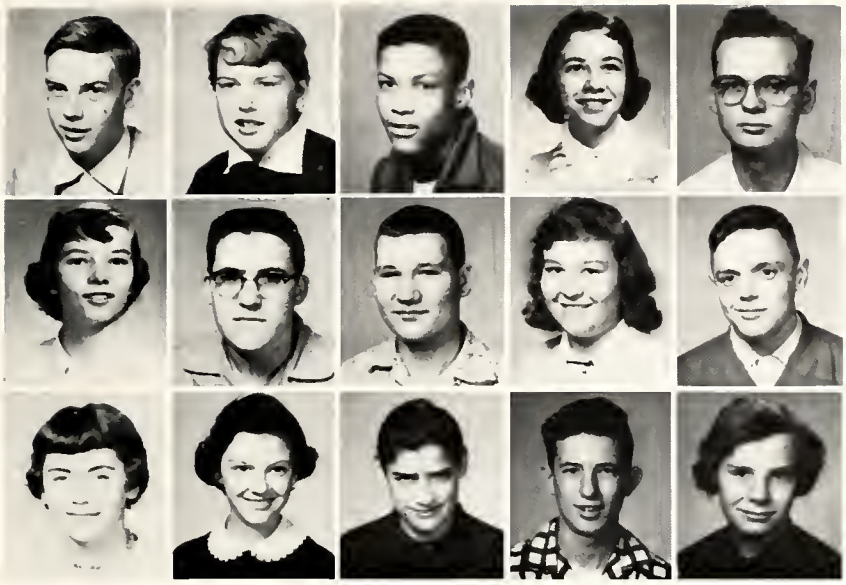
Third Row: Sherry Murphy, Nancy Myers, Lois Parsons, Peggy Parsons, Gary Patterson.

First Row: Glenn Pontius, David Price, Ben Reidenbach, Tom Reynolds, Sharon Ries.

Second Row: Alan Rinard, Robert Rowland, Michael Ruskaup, Bob Scaer, Roger Schaffer.

Third Row: Larry Schoonover, Sandra Schumm, Charlotte Sherman, Roger Shimp, Judith Showalter.





First Row: David Shupe, Nancy Sidle, Fred Simmons, Joy Sink, Ray Skinner.

Second Row: Sharon Slane, Don Smitley, Doug Snyder, Peg Stenger, Bob Stevens.

Third Row: Sally Stewart, Janice Stoller, Julius Strick, Larry Summersett, Linda Terry.

First Row: Jerry Thatcher, Ronnie Thatcher, Diane Thomas, Tony Todd, Peggy Tomlinson.

Second Row: Marjorie Wade, Linda Waldron, Richard Waldron, Connie Wallace, Robert Walls.

Third Row: David Walters, Jim Watkins, Doug Welker, Kathy Wells, Donna Whitcraft.

First Row: Jerry Wilhelm, Janelle Wise, Nedra Wise, Rebecca Wisener, Carl Witherow.

Second Row: Dave Witten, LeRoy Wolford, Charles Young, Sandra Young, Florence Zinsmeister.

By mid-year they know their way around

Freshmen, now seasoned veterans, look forward to another year

On September 12, 1955, one hundred seventy-five "greenies" proudly entered the doors of high school, only to find ourselves completely lost in the confusion of beginning activities. After a few weeks of forgetting locker combinations and room numbers, we settled down to the routine business of school and elected class officers and representatives to the Student Council.

On the reserve basketball team we proudly cheered Jim Bell, Charles Young, Bob Matthias, Rodger Bechtol, Don Beck, Tom Reynolds, Larry Holden, Charles Ingman, Gary Patterson, and Carl Witherow. Several of our classmates carried the pigskin for the freshman team and occasionally for the varsity.

We chose Sara Drury as our attendant to the Homecoming Queen. We were proud of the many freshmen who were active members of the high school band, and of our three reserve cheerleaders.

With all this to our credit, we feel we have taken our first big step on the stairway of higher education, and we are very happy to turn over our job as "greenies" to the incoming freshman class as we journey on to the sophomore step of Van Wert High School.

Officers
Linda McCarty, vice president
Janet Davis, treasurer
Suzy Binkley, secretary
Mr. Mason, adviser
Judy McCollum, president

First Row: Devon Bricker, Jess Cooper, Vern Laing, Larry Lehman, Tom Harden, Frank Gilland, Bill Feasby, Ronnie Spray, Doug Geary, Mr. Manken. Second Row: Larry Ley, Bob Exline, Bob Young, Jim Gilliland, Mike Pheneger, Jim Jones. Third Row: Jim Lane, Dick Shock, Jim Dilbone, Tom Giessler, Roger Martin, Jim Leonard, Bill Kelley. Fourth Row: Ronnie Dierks, Bill Fowler, Phil Jarvis, Arnell Fast, John Edwards, Paul Kouts, Stan Smith. Fifth Row: Larry Smith, Jerry Baer, Jim O'Mara, Gary Cobb, Dave Gamble, Jim Smith, Jim Benfield, Jim Wiseman.

Hi-Y promotes Christian living and service

The Hi-Y began its year with the induction of members at St. Marks Lutheran Church. During the year the club assumed the responsibility for the Y.M.C.A. school membership, sponsored the Thanksgiving assembly, was host to the District Seven spring meeting, entertained the Senior Y-teens, and assisted in the City Cleanup Drive. Club representatives to the Youth and Government meeting in Columbus were Larry Smith, delegate; Dave Gamble, alternate; Frank Gilland, reporter; and Tom Harden, nominee for Speaker of the House from Northwestern Ohio, and appointed Majority Leader of the House. Mr. Manken was club adviser.

Officers

Devon Bricker, treasurer; Tom Harden, secretary; Vern Laing, president; Larry Lehman, vice president; Jess Cooper, chaplain; Frank Gilland, reporter.

The Student Council, our student governing body, plays a vital role in school activity. Its members are the four class presidents and representatives from homerooms. The object of the council is to promote greater school unity, better co-operation between students and faculty, and better school spirit and conduct. To reach these goals, five squads are appointed: social squad, headed by Judy McCollum; courtesy, Mary Ellen Keith; finance, Sheila Hallam; conduct, Opal Clouse; and assembly, Ronnie Dierks. Activities include the Student Loan Plan, a worthwhile program initiated this year; hall monitors stationed in the upper and lower halls; a dance; and financing the telephone for student use. Mr. Gallapoo and Mr. Baker are the advisers.

Officers
Mary Blake, secretary; Jim Jones, president; Larry Smith, vice president.

Student Council provides experience in democratic living

First Row: Larry Smith, Jim Jones, Mary Blake, Jim Imler. Second Row: Mr. Baker, Linda Kirchenbauer, Barbara Hirn, Carol Grindahl, Judy McCollum, Joy Sink. Third Row: Mr. Gallapoo, Ron Dierks, Vern Laing, Sue Farlow, Sue Williman, Opal Clouse, Mary Jane Ross, Mary Ellen Keith, Sheila Hallam. Fourth Row: Tom Harden, Jerry Baer, Dave Gamble, Gary Cobb, Roger Martin, Pat Hallam, Paul Sargent, Ron Sherer, Jim Bebout.

First Row: Marie Lewis, Caroline Scott, Sally Coombs, Judy Harden, Carol Grindahl, Roger Martin, Jean Bennett. Second Row: LaRita Whitcraft, Diane Hardin, Barbara Ditto, John Smith, Miriam Price, Janice Prior, Mike Pheneger, Douglas Geary, Dorothy Weck.

Juniors take "Time Out for Ginger"

The junior class presented "Time Out for Ginger", a recent Broadway hit by Ronald Alexander. Directed by Clyde Coon, speech instructor of the high school, the cast ably performed this hilarious comedy in three acts which centers around a banker's tomboy daughter who wants to play football — and does. Presented November 15 and 16, the play was thoroughly enjoyed by the audiences.

CAST

Lizzie, the maid ..... Barbara Ditto
Dorothy Weck

Agnes Carol ..... Judy Harden
Sally Coombs

Howard Carol ..... Douglas Geary

Joan, their daughter, age 18 ..... Diane Harden
Janice Prior

Jeannie, their daughter, age 16 ..... LaRita Whitcraft
Carol Grindahl

Ginger, their daughter, age 14 ..... Marie Lewis
Caroline Scott

Eddie Davis, an athlete, Joan's boy friend ..... Mike Pheneger

Tommy Green, Ginger's boy friend ..... Roger Martin

Miss Wilson, the high school principal ..... Miriam Price
Jean Bennett

Ed Hoffman, bank president, Howard Carol's boss ..... John Smith

Juniors order class rings, plan prom, and move a step closer to graduation

First Row: James Agler, Joe Agler, Larry Agler.

Second Row: Dave Allen, Joe Allen, Jim Anderson.

Third Row: Mauvette August, Jerry Baer, Laurinda Bate.

Fourth Row: Judith Beall, Jean Bennett, Barbara Blanke.

Fifth Row: Frank Boroff, Frank Brown, Peg Brown, Dick Caldwell, Judy Coffelt.

Sixth Row: Judy Conn, Sally Coombs, Nan Cowan, Eddie DeCamp, Richard DeCamp.

Seventh Row: Terry Devine, Ronnie Dierks, Barbara Ditto, Joyce Donahue, Larry Du-Cheney.

Juniors

First Row: John Edwards, Donald Elzey, Janet Fauble.

Second Row: Ann Feeney, Bill Fowler, Dave Gamble.

Third Row: Doug Geary, Mary Lou Germann, Martha Gingrich.

Fourth Row: Jim Goins, Don Good, Neil Good.

Fifth Row: Carol Grindahl, Earl Hainline, Judy Harden.

Sixth Row: Dianne Hardin, Carolyn Hartge, Cathy Hilton, Barbara Hirn, Ella Jean Hoffman.

Seventh Row: Jacqueline Hoghe, Pat Holtschult, Jane Johnson, Jean Johnson, Larry Kreischer.

Eighth Row: Ronald Krick, Ralph Lautzenheiser, Marie Lewis, Ervan Lintermoot, Rita Lippi.

1957

First Row: Barbara McDonald, Alice McMichael, Janet McNeal.

Second Row: Sandra Makuh, Roger Martin, Marilyn Matthias.

Third Row: Don May, Barbara Merkle, Betty Miller.

Fourth Row: Jerry Miracle, Janet Monce, Janet Morris.

Fifth Row: David Myers, Jane Ann Myers, Tom Nott.

Sixth Row: Arla Oechsle, Rita Osenbaugh, Mike Pheneger, Linda Poling, Sandra Pontius.

Seventh Row: Jim Presler, Miriam Price, Donna Prichard, Janice Prior, Lester Raker.

Eighth Row: Sue Ralston, Sandi Ramsey, Joyce Rawlings, Carolyn Rhodenbaugh, Diane Roth.

Juniors

First Row: Jan Runnion, John Saylor, Andrea Scarpelli.

Second Row: Don Schnepp, Paul Schwinnen, Caroline Scott.

Third Row: Larry Sidle, Jim Smith, John Smith.

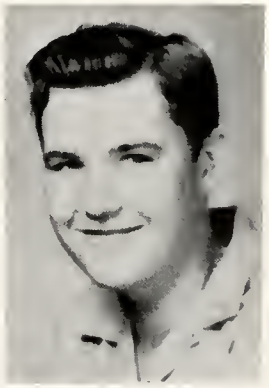
Fourth Row: Larry Smith, Stanley Smith, Brenda Smitley.

Fifth Row: Karen Sowers, Ronny Spray, Joan Sterrett.

Sixth Row: Orville Stetler, David Stittsworth, Louis Thomas, Shirley Tickle, Norma Tinker.

Seventh Row: Dorothy Vetter, Barbara Wampler, Dolores Weck, Dorothy Weck, LaRita Whitcraft.

Eighth Row: Sandra Willett, Carol Wilmore, Bill Winters, Sandra Wise, John Wisener.



In Memoriam
Glenn Hudson

Juniors say farewell to a happy, carefree year

This year as the juniors walked in the doors of Van Wert High School, we had a different feeling because we were upper classmen. One of the first things we did was to elect the officers named below.

Placed on the undefeated football team were Jerry Baer, John Edwards, Ron Dierks, Larry Smith, Larry Feeney, Dave Gamble, Paul Schwinnen, Bill Winters, and Joe Agler, who unfortunately suffered a broken ankle at the start of the season.

For the third year, the junior class chose Nan Cowan as Homecoming attendant.

"Time Out for Ginger" was a popular choice for the class play.

Eight juniors played basketball: Larry Ducheney, Dave Gamble, Jerry Baer, Don Good, Paul Schwinnen, Jim Smith, Ron Dierks, and Larry Smith.

Juniors playing baseball were Larry Smith, Louis Thomas, Larry Kreischer, Dave Gamble, and Ron Dierks.

That winds up the year for us as juniors, but we have one more year. We hope it will bring as many happy times and leave as many pleasant memories as the past years.

Mr. Bowen, adviser
Jean Bennett, vice president
Ron Dierks, president
Caroline Scott, treasurer
Dorothy Weck, secretary

First Row: K. Heffner, A. Hartge, J. Beck, K. Katterheinrich, D. Roth, E. Mericle, V. Miller, L. Bagley, B. Blake, C. Hartge, M. Germann, K. Sowers, J. Hoghe. Second Row: Miss Merten, J. McCollum, S. Miller, S. Arnold, P. Finkhousen, B. Germann, L. Feasby, J. Prior, J. Rawlings, M. Brooks, M. Marquis, P. Roesner, P. Tomlinson, F. Zinsmeister, L. Waldron, V. Harvey, B. Sheets, N. Myers, C. Kinsey. Third Row: S. Agler, C. Wallace, K. Wells, J. Beck, S. Sheldon, C. Hesher, P. Stenger, C. Baxter, L. Kreischer, J. Sink, C. Sherman, S. Slane, M. Blake, S. Ries, S. Ralston, L. McCarty, T. Jackson. Fourth Row: J. Davis, M. Lewis, M. Matthias, P. Williamson, B. Caldwell, S. Schumm, J. Myers, J. Johnson. S. Binkley, B. Miller, C. Katterheinrich, K. Goins, L. Parsons, M. Galloway, J. Geary, G. Harley, G. Hardman. Fifth Row: P. Brown, S. Wiseman, M. Kohn, O. Clouse, S. Thompson, S. Stewart, H. Keirns, H. Heath, S. Malinowski.

G.A.A.

SPEEDBALL CHAMPS—First Row: L. Feasby, S. Sheldon, C. Hesher, O. Clouse, A. Hartge. Second Row: B. Germann. S. Thompson, M. Kohn, B. Sheets, Miss Merten.

BASKETBALL CHAMPS—First Row: P. Roesner, P. Williamson, P. Boroff, L. Bagley, B. Blake, K. Katterheinrich. Second Row: M. Brooks, H. Heath, S. Malinowski, M. Marquis, Miss Merten.

VOLLEYBALL CHAMPS—First Row: D. Roth, C. Hartge, S. Ralston. Second Row: M. Germann, K. Sowers, M. Lewis, J. Prior. Third Row: P. Brown, J. Johnson, J. Hoghe, J. Johnson, M. Matthias, J. Myers.

Elaine Mericle, treasurer; Karen Katterheinrich, president; Janet Beck, vice president; Diane Roth, secretary.

First Row: L. Hoffman, S. Thompson, A. Hitchcock, O. Clouse, C. Hesher, L. Allen, J. Feasby, J. Beall, D. Ashbaugh, B. Huffine, M. Blake, M. J. Ross, M. E. Keith, Miss Baxter. Second Row: N. Dempsey, M. Galloway, A. Hartge, S. Miller, S. Arnold, P. Finkhousen, B. Germann, L. Feasby, S. Binkley, L. Kreischer, S. Agler, M. Blake, S. Ries, V. Harvey, M. DeMoss, J. Davis, D. Blackmore, J. Sink. Third Row: R. Balliet, C. Green, J. Davis, C. Wallace, K. Wells, S. Sheldon, S. Wiseman, K. Heffner, C. Baxter, C. Katterheinrich, C. Sherman, S. Slane, B. Sheets, J. Bell, J. Anderson, K. Waymire, E. Stevens, A. Gribler. Fourth Row: A. Good, R. Harden, E. Hoeken, J. Stoller, P. Dunlap, D. Thomas, M. Ainsworth, B. Baker, J. Runnion, M. Kohn, P. Stenger, C. Williams, J. Tope, N. Andrews, D. Whitcraft, D. Doner, J. Huffine, R. Wisener. Fifth Row: N. Louth, K. Geisman, S. Drury, J. Hirn, L. Stemen, L. Rogers, C. Steele, N. Williman, D. Laing, S. Stewart, H. Keirns, S. Lane, R. Lane, J. Chesbro, B. A. Weeks, M. Merkle, N. Raabe, N. Kohn, S. Feasby.

Junior Y-Teens

More than ninety freshmen and sophomore girls joined the Junior Y-Teens this year. The meetings were held twice a month, once during activity period and once at the Y.W.C.A. In addition to arranging and conducting interesting and informative meetings, the girls helped in many service projects. To raise money for expenses, the members held bake sales and sold Christmas cards. They worked with the Senior Y-Teens to present the Easter Assembly and to make the Kupid's Karnival Dance a success. The officers (at right) are Joyce Feasby, president; Joyce Beall, secretary; Lora Verne Allen, treasurer; Carol Hesher, vice president.

Winter

Falling snow, basketball games, clubs, penny lunches, Christmas carols, vacations, dances

ehearsals, going steady, valentines—are never-to-be-forgotten happenings.

Snowball, a glamorous greeting to the New Year

The Rendezvous Committee is composed of sixteen members, four from each class. Their big project is the annual Snowball, held during the Christmas holiday season. While planning for this social event, the committee meets once a week.

Rendezvous Committee

First Row: Bob Young, Sue Farlow, Elise Hoeken. Second Row: Nancy Williman, Ann Good, Sue Williman, Dorothy Weck, Joyce Feasby, Nan Cowan. Third Row: John Saylor, Larry Holden, Charles Young, Jim Imler. Fourth Row: Jerry Nills, Larry Smith, Tom Harden, Ronnie Dierks.

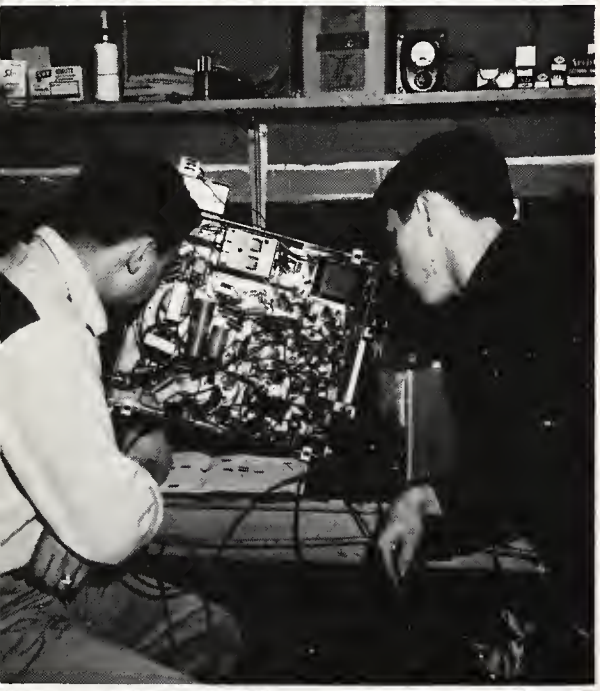
Future Teachers of America plan for tomorrow

The FTA, an organization designed for students who plan to become teachers, is open to all four classes. The members observed and taught elementary classes, spent at least one day on the campus of a teacher-training institution, and were visited by the Ohio Education Association supervisor. Mr. Gallapoo is the adviser.

First Row: Sally Coombs, Sheila Hallam, Sue Farlow, Lynne Eikenbary, Mr. Gallapoo. Second Row: Dorothy Weck, Karen Katterheinrich, Linda Kirchenbauer, Sally Stewart, Charlotte Sherman, Peggy Stenger, Barbara Gilliland, Sarah Agler. Third Row: Patty Holtschult, Judy Harden, Joyce Williams, Susan Sheldon, Beth Ann Weeks, Linda Feasby, Janet Davis, Ann Gribler, Margaret DeMoss. Fourth Row: Sandy Willett, Barbara Hirn, Miriam Price, Caroline Scott, Larry Ley.

Officers

Joyce Williams, program chairman; Sheila Hallam, president; Sue Farlow, treasurer; Sally Coombs, secretary; Lynne Eikenbary, vice president.

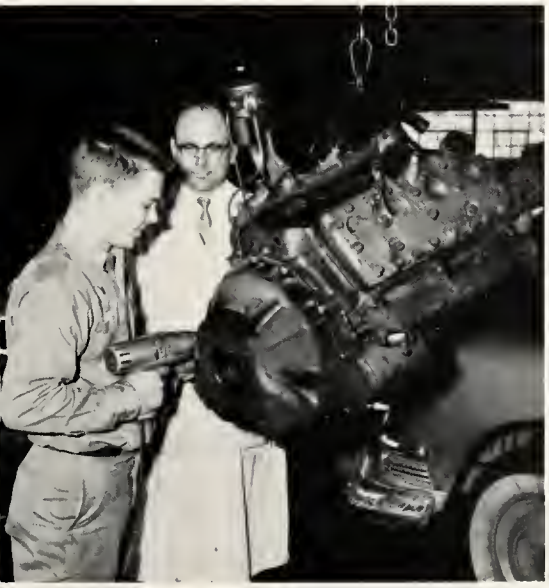


Officers

First Row: Curt Proffitt, vice president; Bill Emrick, president; Charlene Halliwill, secretary; Jim Geisman, treasurer; Bob Holmes, reporter; Larry Wills, sergeant at arms.

Vocational Industrial Club puts theory into practice

First Row: Charlene Halliwill, Curtis Proffitt, Larry Wills, Bill Emrick, Jim Geismann, Bob Holmes. Second Row: Jim Agler, Ray Tinnel, Larry Ducheney, Mr. Davis. Third Row: Kenny Seibert, Larry Johns, David Allen, Frank Boroff, Richard McCoy.



In the five years of its existence, this club has won five gold awards for outstanding service to the community. In addition to state activities, the club holds an annual employer-employee banquet. Ray Tinnel received the gold award as the outstanding student in the local program.

VIC members have the opportunity to learn on the job

First Row: M. Lewis, D. Laing, D. Ashbaugh, B. A. Weeks, M. L. Germann, C. J. Grindahl, S. Tickle, J. Ruunion, C. Scott, L. Kirchenbauer, L. Whitcraft, S. Dustman, R. Morris, S. Ramsey, S. Willett, J. Feasby, C. Rhodenbaugh, J. Prior, M. Jerome, D. Roth, D. Weck. Second Row: A. Oechsle, E.Stevens, H. Mericle, B. Merkle, D. Weck, C. Williams, E. Mericle, L. Learey, P. Gribler, K. Sowers. C. Steele, S. Williman, L. Stemen, L. V. Allen, A. Scarpelli, J. Harden, M. Brooks, J. Williams, M. Price. Third Row: A. Hitchcock, A. Tanner, L. Bagley, D. Mason, N. Tinker, S. Coombs, M. Marquis, J. Johnson, L. Longwell, K. Katterheinrich, B. Blake, J. Beall, J. Donahue, J. Johnson, P. Wable, L. Eikenbary, N. Cowan, S. Wiseman, M. Matthias, M. J. Ross, S. Thompson, S. Hallam. Fourth Row: T. Giessler, J. Miracle, D. Mazock, R. Krick, N. Good, D. Mason, D. Stittsworth, A. Good, D. Black, L. Pennell, H. Shaw, J. White, J. Cooper, R. Dierks, V. Laing, Fifth Row: L. Ley, J. Wiseman, B. Ainsworth, A. Fast, R. Martin, S. Smith, D. Ford, J. Smith, G. Cobb, F. Gilland, P. Jarvis, J. Gribler, R. Sherer, C. Griffiths, R. Williams, J. Lane.

A Cappella Choir members gain appreciation through performance

The Van Wert a cappella choir consists of nearly one hundred sophomores juniors, and seniors. During the year the choir has sung at school assemblies and for graduation ceremonies, given concerts for various community clubs. and presented "Vocal Varieties." It is a coveted honor to be a member of this organization, one of the finest choirs in the state. This is the seventh year in which the choir has received a superior rating in the state contest, as well as in the district competition. Several members of the choir also have won superior and excellent ratings in district and state contests. Mr Herbert Jones, the director, has given much time and effort to make the choir one of our school's outstanding organizations.

Director

Mr. H Herbert Jones

Girls' Ensemble

Arla Oechsle, Linda Kirchenbauer, Sue Williman, Lynne Eikenbary.

Boys' Ensemble

Vern Laing, Jim Lane, Ronnie Williams, Jess Cooper, Larry Lehman, Jerry Gribler, Phil Jarvis, Gary Cobb, Frank Gilland, Larry Ley, Tom Giessler.

Freshman Chorus

First Row: F. Zinsmeister, L. Rogers, G. Hardman, L. DeCamp, C. Sherman, S. Slane, D. Thomas. C. Wallace, K. Wells, P Finkhousen, J Davis, P. Dunlap, S. Gribler, J. Huffine, B. Ellerbrock, M Galloway. Second Row: J: Stoller, N. Kohn, C. Green, P. Stenger, S. Ries, M. Blake, N. Dempsey, M. Wade, S Miller, S. Arnold, L. McCarty, T. Jackson, R. Balliet, N. Andrews, A. Hartge, D. Blackmore, P. Wolery, Mr. Jones. Third Row: O. Clouse, R. Wisener, C. Katterheinrich, S. Lane, N Sidle, C. Kinsey, J Hirn, E. Hoeken, K. Geisman, D. Whitcraft, C. Baxter, A. Gribler, N. Myers, D. Doner Fourth Row: L. Krick, C. Mosier, J. Sink, B. Miller, H. Keirns, N. Louth, A. Good, R.Harden, T. Blue, T. Hipsley, D. Snyder, B. Bebout, C. Ford, G. Knittle, J Davis, C. Hesher, M. E. Keith, S. Stewart. Fifth Row: J. Fraker. T. Oetzel, L. Holden, R. Shimp, L. Summersett, P. Hallam, R. Bechtol, D. Beck, T Reynolds, C Witherow, B. Miller, J. Bebout, R. Hoverman, P. Kaduk, D. Hoverman, B. Scaer, C. Huffine, H. Scaer, B. Matthias, L. Crow, B. Stevens, D. Witten.

Vocal Varieties

The Vocal Varieties this year consisted of a candlelight processional, a short formal concert, and excerpts from Student Prince and Desert Song Vern Laing and Anita Hitchcock were featured in Student Prince; and Lynne Eikenbary, Larry Lehman, Jerry Gribler, and Gary Cobb, in Desert Song.

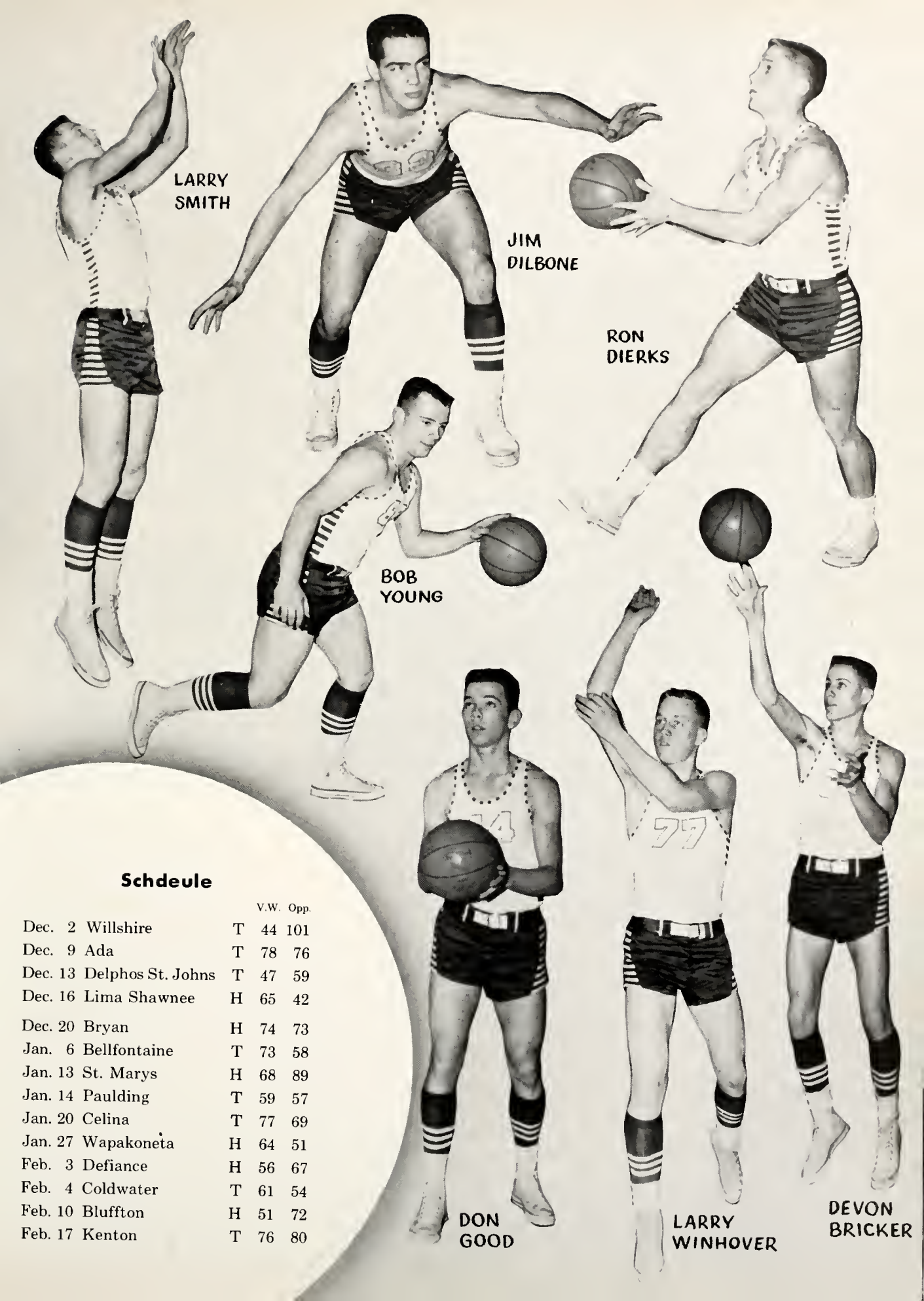
First Row: Devon Bricker, Charles Heath, Bob Young, Jim Dilbone, Jerry Baer, Dave Gamble. Second Row: Jim Smith, Tom Nott, Larry Smith, Don Good, Larry Winhover, Ron Dierks, Larry Ducheney.

Basketball is winter's exciting sport

The basketball season of 1955-56 was a success in many ways. Van Wert won a good share of games and best of all, there was renewed interest on the part of the student body. The Cougar cagers were honored to have as a member of their team the high scorer of the league, Don Good. This in itself marks a good team. The best part of the season was tournament time. It seemed to put the whole high school on their toes, The Cougars had a few bad breaks and lost their second game by a very slim margin. We are very proud of this team and its record.

Manager
Louis Thomas

Coach
Clarence Cline



Schdeule

			V.W.	Opp.
Dec. 2	Willshire	T	44	101
Dec. 9	Ada	T	78	76
Dec. 13	Delphos St. Johns	T	47	59
Dec. 16	Lima Shawnee	H	65	42
Dec. 20	Bryan	H	74	73
Jan. 6	Bellfontaine	T	73	58
Jan. 13	St. Marys	H	68	89
Jan. 14	Paulding	T	59	57
Jan. 20	Celina	T	77	69
Jan. 27	Wapakoneta	H	64	51
Feb. 3	Defiance	H	56	67
Feb. 4	Coldwater	T	61	54
Feb. 10	Bluffton	H	51	72
Feb. 17	Kenton	T	76	80

Reserve Basketball

Cheerleaders
Carol Grindahl, Ann Hartge, Sandra Arnold, Marie Lewis, Sandra Miller, Judy McCollum.

Coach
Otis Coon

Reserves
First Row: Charles Kanney, Howard Shaw, Bill Winters, Don Black, Jim Imler. Second Row: Larry Ducheney, Jerry Baer, Dave Gamble, Jim Smith, Paul Schwinnen, Bob Mohr.

Freshman Team

First Row: Tom Reynolds, Larry Holden, Jim Bell, Gary Patterson, Carl Witherow. Second Row: Coach Jim Stoops, Don Beck, Rodger Bechtol, Bob Matthias, Charles Ingman.

V-Club members wear the symbol of sportsmanship

The V-Club differs from other organizations in that it is an honor club rather than an activity club. To accept membership in this organization is to accept responsibility in upholding the high ideals of sportsmanship and clean living. Boys who have earned their varsity "V" for successful participation in athletics are eligible for membership.

Officers

Jim Gilliland, vice president; Tom Harden, president; Devon Bricker, secretary-treasurer.

First Row: Jess Cooper, Bob Young, Tom Harden, Charlie Parsons, Harold Haight, Marvin Mihm, Mr. Livingston. Second Row: Art Good, Jim Jones, Larry Feeney, Jim Gilliland, Jim Dilbone. Third Row: John Edwards, Don Good, Walter Grunden, Dave Gamble, Paul Schwinnen. Fourth Row: Larry Smith, Devon Bricker, Bill Fowler, Ronnie Miller, Ronnie Dierks.

Cheerleders
JANICE PRIOR
LINDA BAGLEY
PEG BROWN
SUE FARLOW
DIANE ROTH
ELAINE MERICLE

First Row: B. Gilliland, B. Germann, J. Runnion, J. Prior, J. Harden, B. Hirn, Mr. Coon. Second Row: A. Tanner, L. Eikenbary, P. Wable, L. Kirchenbauer, L. Bagley, V. Miller, M. Brooks, J. Williams, J. Bennett, S. Thompson. Third Row: S. Willett, L. Whitcraft, M. Price, C. Scott, B. Ditto, J. Fauble, D. Weck, L. Bate, J. Monce, S. Coombs, L. Feasby, N. Tinker. Fourth Row: L. Lehman, J. Jones, J. Leonard, T. Giessler, F. Gilland, R. Milner, D. Elzey, C. Griffiths, L. Pennell.

Masque and Gavel develops dramatic talent

The Masque and Gavel Society is an organization open to students interested in any phase of speech, such as dramatics, declamation, and debate. Although it is a new organization this year, it has an unusually large membership of thirty-seven members. This year's officers were Jim Jones, president; Miriam Price, vice president; and Linda Bagley, secretary-treasurer. These people also held these same offices for the National Thespian group which was organized just this year. Mr. Coon, the speech teacher, is the adviser for both organizations.

National Thespians

First Row: La Rita Whitcraft, Carol Grindahl, Janice Prior, Sally Coombs, Caroline Scott, Janet Monce, Miriam Price. Second Row: Linda Bagley, Linda Kirchenbauer, Lynne Eikenbary, Shirley Dustman, Jean Bennett, Barbara Ditto, Judy Harden, Joyce Williams, Mary Brooks. Third Row: Anita Tanner, Bob Young, Jim Jones, Chris Griffiths, Terry Devine, Jim Leonard, Frank Gilland, John Smith, Vern Laing, Mr. Coon.

Officers

Miriam Price, vice president; Jim Jones, president; Linda Bagley, secretary-treasurer.

Adviser

Mr. Clyde Coon.

Declamation

Lynne Eikenbary (kneeling), Chris Griffiths, Caroline Scott, Joyce Williams, Judy Harden, Jim Jones, Virginia Miller, Frank Gilland, Anita Tanner.

Debate

Caroline Scott, Judy Harden, Sally Thompson, Chris Griffiths, Jim Jones, Mary Brooks, Jim Leonard, Anita Tanner.

Assemblies

Friday afternoons during football and basketball seasons, yells and cheers could be heard issuing from the study hall. Although pep assemblies made up the bulk of the programs, others were centered around holidays, entertainment, and the giving of awards. Miss Merton's fifty foot speech, Anita Tanner's Easter presentation from the *Terrible Meek*, and the launching of the Student Loan Fund are a few of the assemblies which we shall always remember.

Sophomore Class forges ahead in school citizenship

This year when we entered Van Wert High School, we were no longer little "greenies", but we were not yet upper classmen. After getting settled and electing officers, we began to take a definite part in school life.

Representing us in athletics were Larry Bowersock, Danny Butler, Larry Feeney, Roger Gipe, Onley Heath, Larry Johnson, Jim Imler, Charles Kanney, Robert Mohr, Jerry Nills, Terry Oetzel, Dick O'Mara, Howard Shaw, George White, Jack White, Don Black, and Bill Winters.

At the Homecoming activities, our attendant to the queen was Nancy Williman. We elected Mary Jane Ross, Jim Imler, Ron Sherer, Opal Clouse, Nancy Gipe, and Mary Blake to the Student Council, where Mary Blake was chosen secretary.

In other organizations, we were active too. We furnished all the officers and cabinet members for the Junior Y-Teens. Four of our members served on the G. A. A. cabinet and five served on the Rendezvous Committee. We contributed twenty-six members to the choir and twenty-five to the band. Sally Thompson and Chris Griffiths won places on the reserve debate team.

Cheering the boys on to victory were Diane Folck, varsity cheerleader, and Ann Hartge, reserve cheerleader.

We of the sophomore class have found this year to be a very enjoyable and important one, and we know that the two remaining years in high school will be even better.

Dorothy Laing,treasurer; Mr. Bricker, adviser; Opal Clouse, president; Charlene Steele, vice president; Linda Stemem, secretary.

First Row: Judy Aichele, Margaret Ellen Ainsworth, Robert Ainsworth.

Second Row: Lora Verne Allen, Pat Alvarado, Janet Anderson.

Third Row: Diane Ashbaugh, Betty Baker, Lillie Baker.

Fourth Row: Robert Baker, Joyce Beall, Jadine Bell.

Fifth Row: Don Black, Carolyn Blackmore, Mary Blake, Bob Blank, Larry Bowersock.

Sixth Row: Roger Bradford, Reg Burley, Dan Butler, Sharon Case, Opal Clouse.

Seventh Row: Peggy Davis, Saundra Dempsey, Charles Ditto, George Dunn, Tonnetta Dustman.

Eighth Row: Joyce Feasby, Linda Feasby, Sandra Feasby, Larry Feeney, Harold Felger.

First Row: Diane Folck, Bill Foley, Don Ford.

Second Row: Wayne Friesner, Dick Gallaway, Beverly Germann.

Third Row: Bob Gilliland, Nancy Gipe, Roger Gipe.

Fourth Row: Barbara Goodwin, Chris Griffiths, Carolyn Grimm.

Fifth Row: Jean Hammond, Ann Hartge, Marcia Hartman, Onley Heath, Martha Height.

Sixth Row: Carol Hesher, Anita Hitchcock, Carl Hoghe, Lois Hoffman, Barbara Huffine.

Seventh Row: Charles Huffine, Jim Imler, Don Johnson, Larry Johnson, Charles Kanney.

Eighth Row: Glenn Kelley, Mary Kohn, Nancy Kohn, Dorothy Laing, Rosemary Lane.

First Row: Peggy McClure, Della Mason, Hilda Mericle.

Second Row: Marcile Merkle, David Mohler, Robert Mohr.

Third Row: Pat Murphy, David Niles, Jerry Nills.

Fourth Row: Terry Oetzel, Dick O'Mara, Myles Parsons.

Fifth Row: Larry Pennell, Peg Perry, Cary Proffitt, Nancy Raabe, Dorothy Rhodenbaugh.

Sixth Row: Hazel Rhodenbaugh, Helen Roberts, Phyllis Rodman, Loella Rogers, Mary Jane Ross.

Seventh Row: Larry Roth, Jona Runnion, Don Ruskaup, Herb Scaer, Ronnie Shaffer.

Eighth Row: Dennis Schaffner, Carol Schnepp, Bill Scott, Howard Shaw, Barbara Sheets.

First Row: Susan Sheldon, Ronnie Sherer, Bill Sherman.

Second Row: Kenneth Shook, Lyle Smith, Jim Speer.

Third Row: Charlene Steele, Linda Stemen, Doyle Stetler.

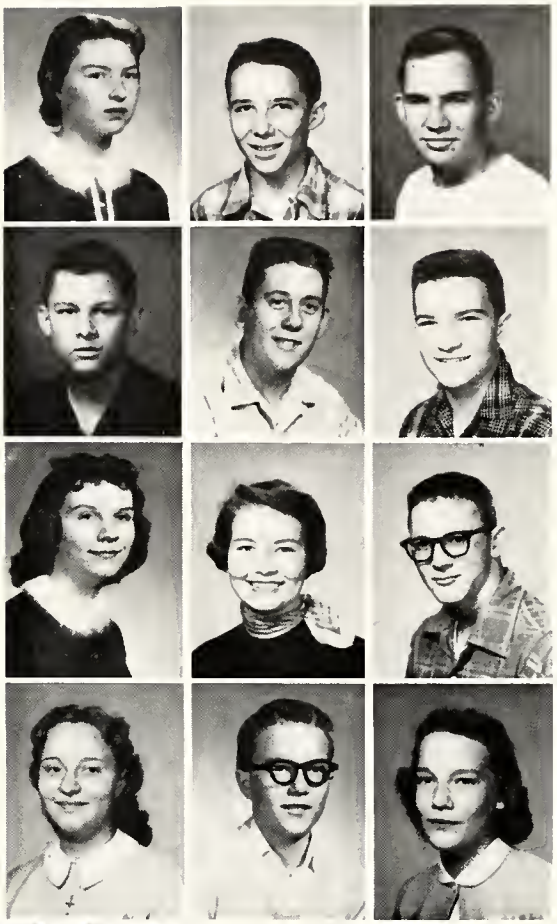
Fourth Row: Evelyn Stevens, Robert Taylor, Sally Thompson.

Fifth Row: Gary Tomczak, Joyce Tope, Tom Uncapher, Stephen VanKleeck, Meredith Wade.

Sixth Row: Karen Waymire, Beth Ann Weeks, Roger Welker, Jim West, George White.

Seventh Row: Jack White, Carolyn Williams, Nancy Williman, Bill Winters, Sharon Wise.

Eighth Row: Sharleen Wiseman, Jim Wollett, John Young.



Spring

Contests, Easter assemblies, baseball, class plays, skipping school, spring fever,

all-night prom, commencement — all these are moments to remember.

Laeti Latini ¡oin Junior Classical League

First Row: Mrs. White, R. Martin, B. McDonald, D. Laing, N. Williman, N. Cowan, J. Prior, M. Blake, J. Imler, B. Germann, B. Mohr. Second Row: C. Hoghe, H. Scaer, K. Sowers, D. Weck, S. Ramsey, L. Kirchenbauer, S. Farlow, L. Bagley, B. Hirn, M. Merkle, B. A. Weeks, D. Roth. Third Row: A. Tanner, R. Burley, A. Hitchcock, B. Smitley, P. Holtschult, S. Coombs, J. Harden, J. Morris, S. Hallam, N. Tinker, S. Thompson, M. J. Ross, N. Raabe, L. V. Allen, N. Kohn, L. Feasby. Fourth Row: J. Nills, D Dershem, J. Gribler, J. Johnson, S. Willett, L. Whitcraft, M. Price, C. Scott, M. Brooks, J. Williams, M. Marquis, L. Ley, L. Pennell, C. Griffiths, R. Sherer, S. Sheldon, M. Kohn, L. Rogers.

Laeti Latini banquet in true Roman fashion.

Roger Martin, quaestor; Nan Cowan, consul; Janice Prior, scribe; Jim Imler, consul; Dorothy Laing, censor; Nancy Williman, censor; Mary Blake, quaestor; Bob Mohr, aediles.

Senior Y-Teens uphold high ideals of service.

The Senior Y-Teens, organized in 1946, is sponsored by Van Wert High School and the Y.W.C.A. The purpose of this organization is "to build a fellowship of women and girls devoted to the task of realizing in our common life those ideals of personal and social living to which we are committed by our faith as Christians. In this endeavor we seek to understand Jesus, to share His love for all people, and to grow in the knowledge and love of God." This year the organization contributed time and money to many worthy causes. The girls helped with the tuberculosis envelopes, the Heart Fund, the Polio Fund, and the serving of the business women's dinners. Together with the Junior Y-Teens, they sponsored the Kupid's Karnival Dance and the Easter Assembly.

First Row: J. Myers, B. Smitley, J. Runnion, S. Willett, D. Weck, L. Longwell, N. Cowan, L. Kirchenbauer, J. Bennett, J. Prior, B. Merkle, P. Boroff. Second Row: K. Sowers, M. Jerome, S. Ramsey, J. Fauble, S. Tickle, C. Rhodenbaugh, S. William, P. Gribler, C. Grindahl, S. Farlow, E. Mericle, L. Bagley, V. Miller, J. Beall, L. Eikenbary, Miss Lown. Third Row: L. Bate, M. Putman, P. Williamson, P. Holtschult, S. Coombs, J. Harden, B. Blake, K. Katterheinrich, S. Hallam, P. Wable, C. Bate, M. Wells, S. Makuh, N. Tinker, A. Tanner. Fourth Row: J. Johnson, J. Monce, L. Whitcraft, M. Price, M. Matthias, C. Scott, D. Weck, J. Rawlings, L. Poling, J. Morris, J. Hoghe, M. Brooks, J. Williams, B. Hirn, J. Gallaspie, M. Marquis, M. Agler, S. Wise, J. Beck, B. Runser.

Officers

Nan Cowan, vice president; Linda Kirchenbauer, president; Linda Longwell, secretary; Dorothy Weck, treasurer.

First Row: Shirley Lane, Rosalyn Coffelt, Beverly Cox, Jan Runnion, Janice Stoller, Barbara Ellis, Judy Showalter, Janet McNeal, Miss Sawyer. Second Row: Carolyn Gilland, Dessie Eddins, Gertrude Hardman, Phyllis Lane, Carolyn Williams, Joyce Tope, Nedra Wise, Pamela Foster, Linda McCarty, Alice McMichael. Third Row: Jean Hammonds, Jona Runnion, Florence Zinsmeister, Linda Krick, Mary Mohler, Linda Terry, Ann Feeney, Lois Parsons, Rachael Balliet.

F. H. A. practice gracious living

The theme, Training today makes leaders tomorrow, led the Future Homemakers of America through a good year, beginning with wiener roasts, continuing with a Halloween party, installation of officers, programs on creative hobbies, and a record hop.

The Executive Council included the officers; Mrs. Eugene Runnion, chapter mother; and Miss Mary Sawyer, adviser.

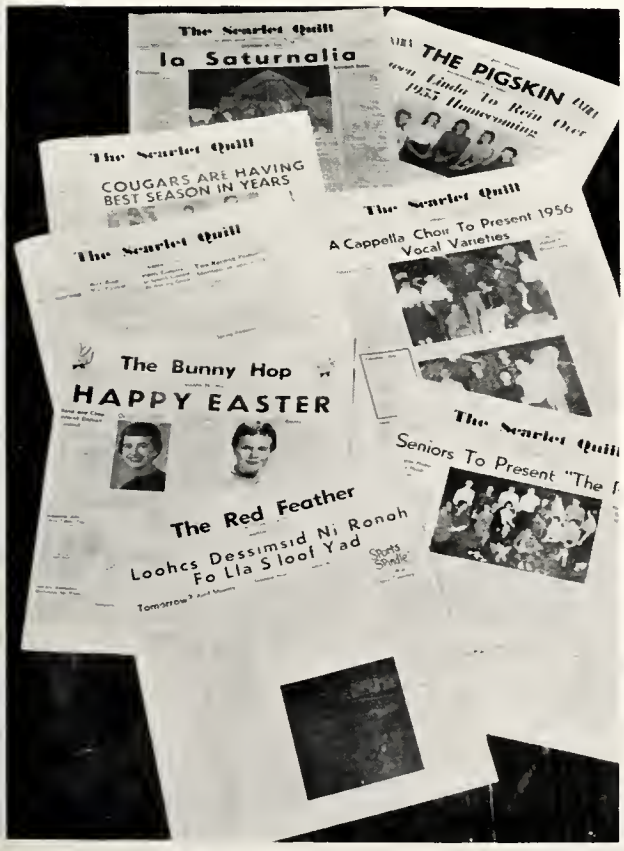
Officers

Jan Runnion (center), president; Dessie Eddins, secretary; Jona Runnion, treasurer; Ann Feeney, historian.

First Row: Virginia Miller, Shirley Dustman, Phyllis Gribler, Linda Kirchenbauer. Second Row: Mr. Coon, Bill Kesler, Bill Feasby, Bob Young.

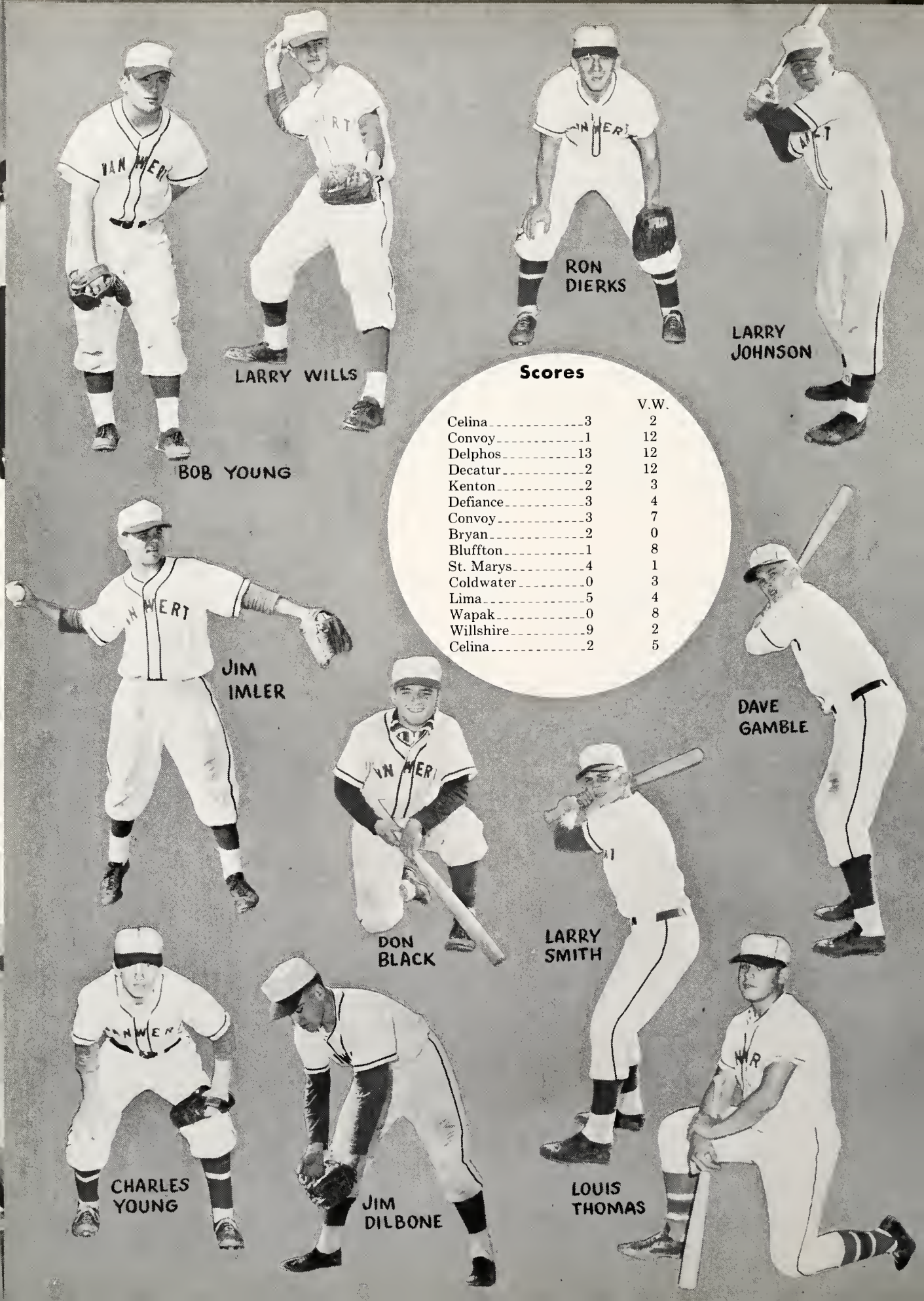
Scarlet Quill — the ears and eyes of Van Wert High

Headlines tell the story.



Our school newspaper, the Scarlet Quill, was published by the journalism class. During the school year, nine interesting and informative issues, with new and unusual features, were published to keep students up-to-date on school activities. The Quill staff, together with the Excalibur staff, sponsored the Homecoming activities. Phyllis Gribler and Shirley Dustman served as editors-in-chief this year, and Mr. Clyde Coon, journalism teacher, was the adviser.

Shirley Dustman, second semester editor, and Phyllis Gribler, first semester editor, inspect final copy.



Scores

		V.W.
Celina	3	2
Convoy	1	12
Delphos	13	12
Decatur	2	12
Kenton	2	3
Defiance	3	4
Convoy	3	7
Bryan	2	0
Bluffton	1	8
St. Marys	4	1
Coldwater	0	3
Lima	5	4
Wapak	0	8
Willshire	9	2
Celina	2	5

Baseball — Cougars complete 10-5 season

The Cougar nine had a good season this spring despite bad weather. Although the boys weren't able to play all their league games, they were beaten in league play only by St. Mary's. Van Wert went to the finals in the sectional tournament at Defiance and was beaten by a team that went to the state tournament at Columbus.

Seniors Bob Young on the mound, Jim Dilbone at third base, and Larry Wills in several positions furnished power both on the field and at bat.

The Cougars had a well rounded team this year; and since they lost only three men through graduation, the prospects for next year are bright.

First Row: Larry Johnson, Dave Shupe, Charles Ingman, Rod Johnson, Larry Kreischer, Ronnie Thatcher. Second Row: Bob Young, Don Black, Jim Dilbone, Jim Imler, Coach Cline. Third Row: Louis Thomas, Larry Wills, Larry Smith, Reg Burley, Dave Gamble, Jerry Nills.

Coach

Clarence Cline

First Row: S. Hallam, K. Katterheinrich, S. Williman, K. Sowers, H. Rhodenbaugh, L. Kirchenbauer, R. Morris, D. Doner, B. Miller, S. Gribler, J. Harden. Second Row: D. Geary, J. Sterrett, S. Willet, N. Louth, N. Williman, C. Katterheinrich, S. Sheldon, K. Geisman, O. Clouse. Third Row: J. Morris, L. V. Allen, N. Andrews, P. Dunlap, N. Wise, J. Showalter, J. Bell, H. Keirns, C. Scott, J. Hoghe. Fourth Row: M. Kohn, B. Sheets, S. Wiseman, L. Rogers, B. Baker, B. Blake, S. Coombs, N. Cowan, S. Drury, C. Griffiths, R. Martin, D. Dershem, N. Raabe, D. Mason, P. Boroff, M. Murphy, M. Gingrich, D. Knodel. Fifth Row: R. Burley, J. Lane, L. Ley, L. Whitcraft, M. Price, P. Wable, S. Dustman, V. Laing, J. Donahue, D. Fell, R. Sherer, R. Shaffer, A. Tanner, B. MacDonald, J. Runnion, A. Hitchcock, Mr. Jones. Sixth Row: L. Pennell, J. Wilhelm, J. Geary, T. Todd, A. Rinard, C. Steele, S. Ries, L. Hoffman, R. Brown, B. Scaer, J. Speer, J. Gribler, R. Shimp, J. Leonard, J. Allen, B. Exline. Not in picture: L. Johnson, P. Stenger, D. Thomas, N. Kohn, S. Van Kleeck, C. Rhodenbaugh, A. Scarpelli, S. Smith, D. Schnepp, D. Shock, L. Learey.

Doug proves clarinet prowess

At ease

Concert Band

The concert band presents summer concerts, Christmas vespers with the choir, and a formal spring concert, and takes part in baccalaureate and commencement exercises.

This spring, after receiving a superior, or one, rating in the district contest in Lima, the band went to Columbus for the state contest. It was the first year that Van Wert had participated in the state competition, and we were proud to return home with an excellent, or two, rating. Several band members also received excellent and superior ratings in district and state solo and ensemble contests.

The Band Parents Organization as well as band concerts helped earn money for new uniforms, instruments, and travel expenses. In the past several years, the band has purchased concert and street drums, tympani, chimes, baritone horns, and bass clarinets, giving a new depth to the sound of the band.

Satisfaction

Director
Mr. Herbert Jones

Career Day

For the first time in several years Van Wert High School held Career Day. On March 15, no regular classes met, and the students attended special meetings at the high school. A general session was held in the morning. Dr. Walter A. Zaugg, professor from Ohio Northern University, gave the keynote speech, "This Is Your Day." He listed four points for successfully reaching one's goal. During the remainder of the day, students attended discussion periods covering thirty-one topics. Everyone agreed that Career Day was an informative and valuable experience.

The Career Day Staff
Dr. Greer discussing Going to College
Miss Imler and Miss Hartman representing nursing
Student Council Guides

DAR Contestants

Van Wert High School was represented by Karen Katterheinrich and Mary Brooks (at right).

Junior Rotarians

Each year a group of senior boys is chosen to attend Rotary meetings. This year eleven boys were so honored.

First Row: Tom Harden, Jim Gilliland, Jim Dilbone. Second Row: Bill Gilland, Jim Leonard, Tom Giessler, Frank Gilland. Third Row: Bob Young, Vern Laing, Art Good, Jerry Gribler.

Scholarship Teams win district and state honors

Languages and Social Studies

First Row: Marcia Agler, Phil Holtkamp, Dorothy Laing, Dorothy Weck. Second Row: Karen Geisman, Dennis Schaffner, Carl Hoghe, John Young, Sandy Willett. Third Row: Rita Brown, Reg Burley, Jane Johnson, Marcile Merkle, Andrea Scarpelli. Fourth Row: Elaine Mericle, Mike Pheneger, Marge Buecker, Charlene Bate, Phil Jarvis. Not pictured but taking the test, Janet Fauble and Kathy Wells.

English

First Row: Mary Ellen Keith, Nancy Louth, Corrine Katterheinrich. Second Row: Sally Thompson, Linda Stemen, Lora Verne Allen. Third Row: Sally Coombs, Judy Harden, Barbara Hirn. Fourth Row: Anita Tanner, Joyce Williams, Mary Brooks.

Science

First Row: Nancy Kohn, Jim Bebout, Barbara McDonald. Second Row: Donald Elzey, Dick O'Mara, Jerry Gribler, David Fell. Third Row: Vern Laing, Tom Harden, Dennis Dersham, Harvey Ireton. Not pictured but taking the test, Larry Pennell.

Mathematics and Bookkeeping

First Row: Martha Height, Dorothy Doner. Second Row: Betty Baker, Nan Cowan, Karen Katterheinrich. Third Row: Louis Crow, Alan Rinard. Fourth Row: Bob Mohr, Bill Scott, Roger Martin. Not pictured but taking the test, Terry Devine and Jim Speer.

National Honor Society — scholarship, leadership, character, service

First Row: Marge Buecker, Mary Brooks, Joyce Williams, Linda Bagley, Tom Harden, Rachel Morris, Anita Tanner, Karen Katterheinrich, Jerry Gribler, Sheila Hallam. Second Row: Janice Prior, Judy Harden, Shirley Dustman, Sally Coombs, Vern Laing, Roger Martin, Terry Devine, Dennis Dershem, Charlene Bate, Nan Cowan, Lynne Eikenbary, Barbara McDonald, Dorothy Weck, Mrs. White.

Van Wert High School received its charter to start a chapter of the National Honor Society in 1930. Since that time there have been four hundred fifty-one members from our school added to the roll.

The members are selected for their outstanding character, their willingness to render service, their ability to lead, and their high rank in scholarship.

Two-Year Members

First Row: Sheila Hallam, secretary; Linda Bagley, vice president; Tom Harden, president; Rachel Morris, treasurer. Second Row: Mary Brooks, Joyce Williams, Margie Buecker, Jerry Gribler, Karen Katterheinrich, Anita Tanner, Mrs. White.

Seniors present inspiring performance of THE ROBE

"The Robe," a drama adapted from Lloyd Douglas's novel of the same title, was presented by the senior class May 4 and 5, and was directed by Mr. Clyde Coon. The play centers around the crucifixion of Christ and the part His robe plays in the lives of several people, especially Diana and Marcellus, who go to their death willingly for their new faith, Christianity. The Lincoln auditorium was filled both nights with an appreciative audience, which witnessed fine performances by all members of the large cast.

Cast

Marcellus Gallio, Roman Officer ... Jerry Gribler
Demetrius, Marcellus's slave ..... Vern Laing
Caligula, the Emperor's son ..... Larry Lehman
Gallio, Marcellus's father ..... Jim Jones
Tiberius, Roman Emperor ..... Jim O'Mara
Pontius Pilate ..... Frank Gilland
Melas, Greek slave ..... Walt Grunden
Captain Fulvius ..... Tom Giessler
Quintus Lucian ..... Bob Young
Centurion Paulus ..... Bob Exline
Sarpedon, the physician ..... Phil Jarvis
Simon Peter ..... Frank Gilland
Diana Gallus ..... Lynne Eikenbary
Lucia Gallio, Marcellus's sister ... Virginia Miller
Cornelia Gallio, Marcellus's mother, Joyce Williams
Phoebe Eupolis ..... Anita Tanner
Theodosia Eupolis ..... Shirley Dustman
Salome ..... Linda Bagley
Helen ..... Charlene Bate
Women ..... Linda Kirchenbauer, Rita Brown, Elaine Mericle, Phyllis Gribler
Soldiers ..... Jess Cooper, Ray Tinnel
Director ..... Mr. C. E. Coon

First Row: Virginia Miller, Elaine Mericle, Phyllis Gribler, Rita Brown, Linda Kirchenbauer, Joyce Williams. Second Row: Tom Giessler, Shirley Dustman, Jerry Gribler, Lynne Eikenbary, Larry Lehman, Linda Bagley, Charlene Bate, Anita Tanner, Bob Young. Third Row: Ray Tinnel Mr. Coon, Phil Jarvis, Vern Laing, Frank Gilland, Jim O'Mara, Walt Grunden, Bob Exline, Jim Jones, Jess Cooper.

Seniors 1956

Officers

Devon Bricker, vice president; Tom Harden, president; Rita Brown, treasurer; Frank Gilland, secretary; Mr. Gallapoo, adviser.

Well, it was here at last, our final year in high school. We selected our class officers with the gravity befitting those of our stature.

Our class assumed its position of leadership. Acting as presidents of school organizations were Linda Kirchenbauer, Senior Y-Teens; Karen Katterheinrich, GAA; Bill Emerick, VIC; Jim Jones, Student Council; Sheila Hallam, FTA; Vern Laing, Hi-Y; and Tom Harden, National Honor Society and V-Club.

Sue Farlow, Linda Bagley, and Elaine Mericle cheered the athletic teams to victory. Linda Kirchenbauer, Sue Williman, Rachel Morris, Beverly Blake, and Lynnda Learey lent color to the band as they pranced down the field in their majorette uniforms.

Seniors contributing to the football team's success were Jess Cooper, Ron Miller, Harold Haight, Marvin Mihm, Walter Grunden, Art Good, Paul Sargent, Jim Gilliland, Tom Harden, Bob Young, Jim Jones, and Jim Dilbone, the latter two being singled out to receive honors for their spectacular feats with the pigskin.

Linda Kirchenbauer and Sue Williman were Queen and Senior Attendant respectively for the 1956 homecoming festivities.

On the basketball team were Bob Young, Jim Dilbone, Devon Bricker, and Larry Winhover; on the baseball team were Bob Young, Jim Dilbone, and Larry Wills.

Karen Katterheinrich and Mary Brooks were DAR contestants for the local chapter, and Joyce Williams was a state winner of the American Legion essay contest. Anita Tanner, Mary Brooks, Linda Bagley, Margie Buecker, Rachel Morris, Karen Katterheinrich, Sheila Hallam, Joyce Williams, Jerry Gribler, and Tom Harden were elected to the National Honor Society their junior year, and Vern Laing, Lynne Eikenbary, Charlene Bate, Shirley Dustman, and Dennis Dershem in their senior year. Eleven boys were designated as Junior Rotarians.

The Senior class play, "The Robe" had many of our number in its cast.

Seniors, we have closed the door on one phase of our life and opened it on another.

MARCIA ANN AGLER
Chorus 1,2; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; Scholarship Teams: English 2, Spanish 4.

JERRY BAER

LINDA SUE BAGLEY
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Class vice president 3; GAA 1,2,3,4; GAA cabinet 4; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Y-Teens cabinet 2; National Honor Society 3,4; National Honor Society vice president 4; National Thespians secretary-treasurer 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Masque and Gavel secretary-treasurer 4; Latin Club 4; Reserve cheerleader 1; Varsity cheerleader 2,3,4; Class play 3,4; Scholarship Team, Biology 2; Prom Committee 3; Commencement announcement committee 4; Girls' State alternate 3.

CHARLENE BATE
Band 2,3; Choir 1,2,3; Y-Teens 4; National Honor Society 4; Class play 3,4; Scholarship team Senior Social Studies 4.

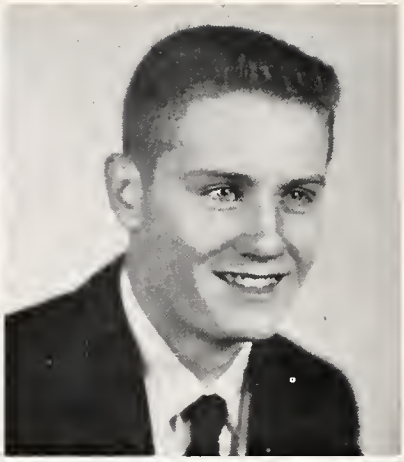
JANET BECK
Y-Teens 3,4; GAA 1,2,3,4; GAA vice president 4; GAA cabinet 2; Excalibur Staff 4.

JAMES R. BENFIELD
Hi-Y 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Boys' Intramurals 2,3

BEVERLY ANN BLAKE
Band 2,3,4; majorette 4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; GAA 2,3,4; GAA cabinet 4; Excalibur Staff 4.

SHIRLEY ANN BOHNER
FHA 1.

HILDA D. BOROFF
GAA 2,3,4; FHA 1; Excalibur Staff 4.



PATRICIA ANN BOROFF
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 2; Y-Teens 4; GAA 4; Excalibur Staff 4.

DEVON BRICKER
Basketball 2,3,4; varsity 3,4; Class vice president 4; Hi-Y 3,4; Hi-Y secretary 4; V-club secretary-treasurer 4; Student Council 3; Excalibur Staff 4; Class Play 3; Prom Committee 3.

MARY PRISCILLA BROOKS
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2, 3,4; Y-Teens cabinet 2,3; GAA 1,2,3,4; GAA cabinet 2; National Honor Society 3,4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Latin Club 4; DAR Contestant 4; Debate Team 4; Class Play 3; Shcolarship Teams, Latin 1,2; English 3,4.

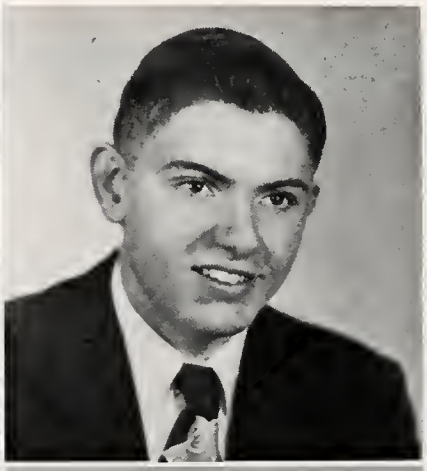
RITA JOAN BROWN
Band 2,3,4; Class treasurer 3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; Class plays 3,4; Scholarship teams, Plane Geometry 2, Spanish II 4.

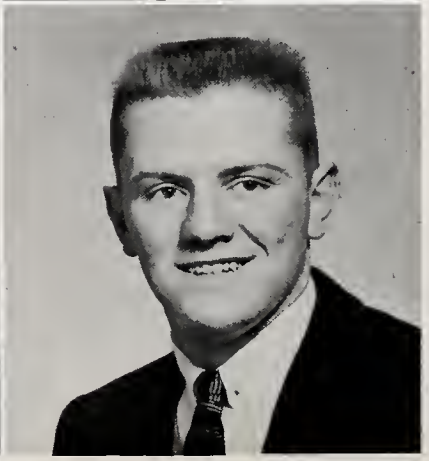
MARGIE LOU BUECKER
Chorus 1; National Honor Society 3,4; FHA 1; Scholarship teams, World History 2, American government 4.

ALLEN R. CLOUSE
Basketball 1.

GARY R. COBB
Band 1,2; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Boys ensemble 3,4; Basketball 1; Hi-Y 3,4; Student Council 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Class Play 3.

JESSE L. COOPER
Chorus 1,2; Choir 3,4; Boys ensemble 3,4; Football varsity 1,2,3,4; Hi-Y 3,4; Hi-Y chaplain 4; Hi-Y cabinet 3; V-club 3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; FFA 2,3; Class play 4; Prom Committee 3.





BEVERLY M. COX
FHA 4.

MIKE DeMOSS
Freshman Football 1.

DENNIS EUGENE DERSHEM
Band 1,2,3,4; National Honor Society 4; Excalibur 4; Latin Club 4; Scholarship Teams 1,2,3,4; General Science, Plane Geometry, Chemistry, Physics.

JIM LEE DILBONE
Football 1,2,3,4; Varsity 2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Varsity 3,4; Baseball 1, 2,3,4; Varsity 2,3,4; V Club 2,3,4; Hi-Y, 3,4.

SHIRLEY ANN DUSTMAN
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; National Honor Society 4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 2,3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; Scarlet Quill Staff Editor 4; Latin Club 4; Declamation Team 4; Class Play 3,4; Prom Committee 3.

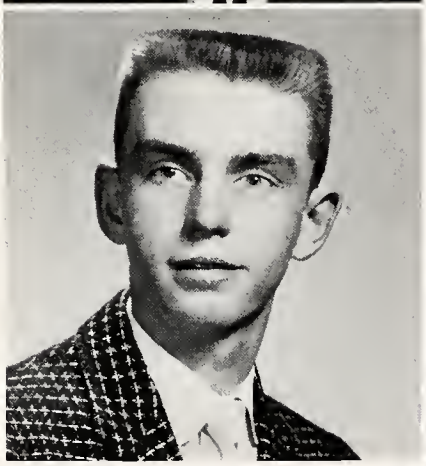
DESSIE B. EDDINS
Y-Teens 1,2,3; GAA 1,2,3; FHA 4; Excalibur 4; Re-Echo Quill Staff (Delphos Jefferson); Junior Class Play (Delphos Jefferson).

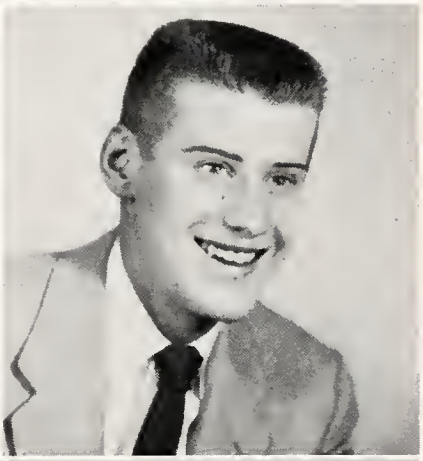
M. LYNNE EIKENBARY
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2, 3,4; Y-Teens cabinet 2,3; National Honor Society 4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 3,4; FTA vice president 4; Student Council 1,2; Excalibur Staff 4; Declamation Team original oratory 3; humorous 4; Class play 3,4; Prom Committee 3; One-act plays 3; Girls' ensemble 2,3,4.

WILLIAM B. EMRICK
Chorus 1; V-Club 3,4; VIC 3,4; VIC president 4; Student Council 2; Football 1; Basketball 2,3; Varsity 3.

ROBERT EXLINE
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1,2,; Hi-Y 3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; Class play 3,4.

KAREN SUE FARLOW
Chorus 1; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; vice president 2; Cabinet 4; GAA 1,2; FTA 3,4; treasurer 4; Student Council 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Rendezvous Committee 1, 2,3,4; secretary 1,2,; vice president 4; Latin Club 4; Cheerleader 1,2,3,4; Reserve 1; Varsity 2,3,4.





ARNELL FAST
Chorus 2; Choir 3,4; Football; Hi-Y 4.

WILLIAM FEASBY
Hi-Y 3,4; Scarlet Quill Staff 4; Quill Business Manager 4.

JANET IRIS GALLASPIE
Y-Teens 4; Excalibur Staff 4.

TERRY JOE GAMBLE
Chorus 1; Choir 2; Football 1.

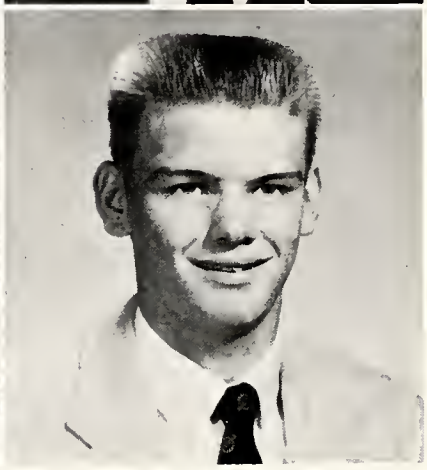
JAMES L. GEISMAN
Football 1,2; VIC 3,4; VIC treasurer 3.

TOM GIESSLER
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Class vice president 2; Hi-Y 3,4; National Thespians 4; Excalibur Staff 4; FFA 1,2,3; Class play 3,4; Junior Rotarian 4.

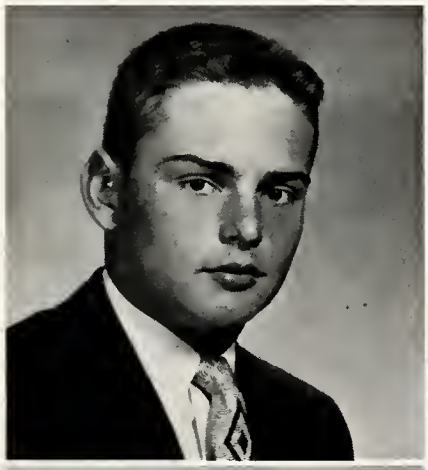
FRANK LYNN GILLAND
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Boys Ensemble 3,4; Hi-Y 3,4; Hi-Y reporter 4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Class secretary 4; Declamation Team original oratory 4; Class play 3,4; One-act plays 3; One-act play director; Junior Rotarian 4.

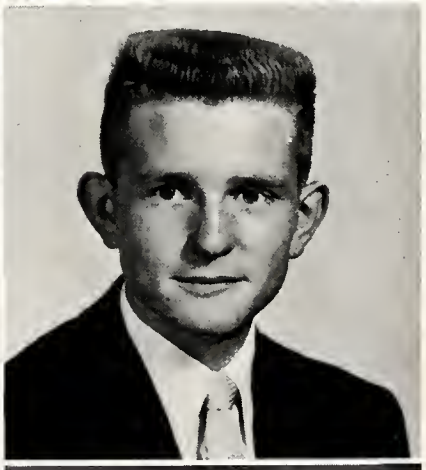
WILLIAM GILLAND
Hi-Y 3,4; Junior Rotarian 4.

BARBARA GILLILAND
Chorus 1, 2; Choir 3; G A A 1, 2; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 2,3,4; Excalibur Staff 4.



JAMES E. GILLILAND
Chorus 1,2; Choir 3,4; Boys Ensemble 3; Football 1,2,3,4; Varsity 2,3,4; Basketball 1; Baseball 2; V-club 3,4; V-club vice president 4; Hi-Y 3,4; FFA 1, 2,3,4; FFA vice president 3, president 4; Junior Rotarian 4.





ARTHUR LEWIS GOOD
Chorus 1,2; Choir 3,4; Football 1,2,3, 4; Varsity 2,3,4; One-act plays 3; Junior Rotarian 4; National Thespians 4.

JERRY L. GRIBLER
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Boys ensemble 3,4; National Thespians 4; National Honor Society 3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; Excalibur business manager; Latin Club 4; Class Play 3,4; Scholarship Teams science 1, biology 2, history 3, physics 4; Junior Rotarian 4; Boys' State Delegate 3.

PHYLLIS DIANE GRIBLER
Chorus 1,2; Choir 3,4; Y-Teens 1,2, 3,4; Quill Staff 4; Quill Editor and Business Manager; Senior Class Play; Excalibur Staff 4; GAA 2.

WALTER T. GRUNDEN
Football 1,2,3,4; Varsity 2,3,4; FFA 1,2,3; FFA vice president 3; Senior Class Play; V-Club 3-4.

HAROLD GORDON HAIGHT
Chorus 1,2; Choir 3,4; Intramurals 1,2; Football 1,2,3,4; Varsity 2,3,4; V-Club 3,4; Student Council 3; FFA 1,2, 3; FFA Sentinel 2.

SHEILA V. HALL
Chorus 1,2; Y-Teens 1,2; GAA 1,2, 3,4; FHA 1; Excalibur Staff 4.

SHEILA MARIE HALLAM
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Y-Teens cabinet 3,4; National Honor Society 3,4; Honor Society secretary 4; FTA 1,2,3,4; FTA treasurer 3; FTA president 4; Student Council 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Latin Club 4; Junior Class Play.

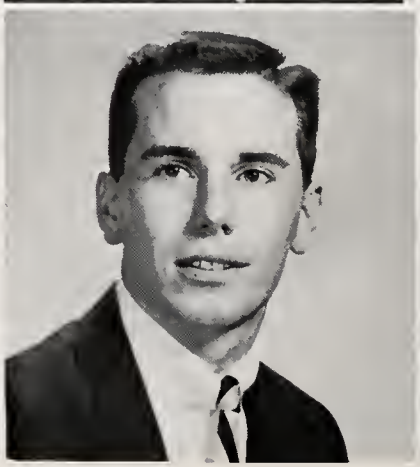
SAM HALLER
Basketball 1,2,3; Varsity; VIC secretary 3.

CHARLENE HALLIWILL
GAA 1,2,3; VIC secretary 4.

LEWIS DeWAYNE HAMMONS

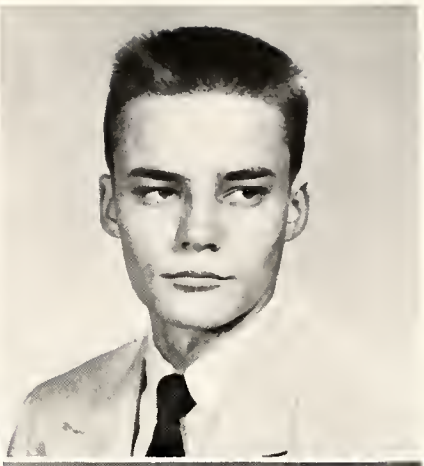
THOMAS CHARLES HARDEN
Football 1,2,3,4; Varsity 2,3,4; Freshman 1; Basketball 1,2,3; Varsity 1,2,3; Baseball Varsity 1,2,3; Class President 3,4; Hi-Y 3,4; Hi-Y Reporter 3; Hi-Y Secretary 4; V-Club 3,4; V-Club President 4; National Honor Society 3,4; National Honor Society President 4; Student Council 1,2,3,4; Rendezvous Committee 1,2,3,4; Junior Rotarian 4; One-act Plays 3; Scholarship Teams 4, physics; Committees, Prom 3, Ring and Pin 3, Commencement Announcements 4.

CHARLES HEATH
Football 1.



ROBERT J. HOLMES
Chorus 1; Basketball 1,3; Freshman 1; Varsity 3; Freshman Football 1; Baseball 1,2; VIC 3,4; VIC Reporter 4.

LARRY R. HOUSTON

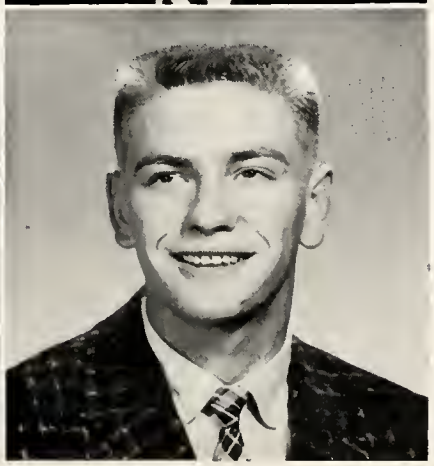


PHILIP JARVIS
Choir 2,3,4; Chorus 1; Hi-Y 4; Excaliber Staff 4; Boys' Ensemble 3,4; Class Play 4; Scholarship Teams 1,3,4; science, American history, social science.

MARGARET JEROME
Band 1; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3; Y-Teens secretary 2.

LARRY L. JOHNS
VIC 4.

JAMES BRUCE JONES
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Football 1,2,3, 4; Freshman basketball 1; Class vice president 1, Class president 2; V-Club 3,4; National Thespians president 4; Masque and Gavel 4; Debate Team 4; Declamation Team 4, Debate; Class Play 4; One-act Plays 3; Commencement Announcement Committee 4; Intramurals 2, Student Council 2,3,4; Student Council President 4.

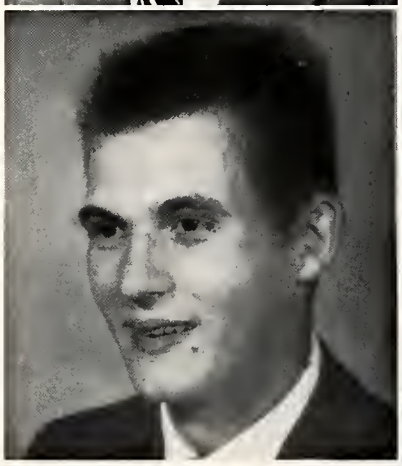


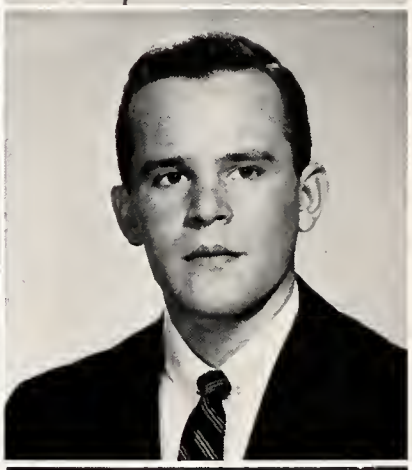
TREVA KAREN KATTERHEINRICH
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Y-Teens treasurer 3; GAA 1,2,3,4; GAA secretary 3; GAA president 4; Excalibur Staff 4, typist; DAR contestant 4; Class Play 3; FTA 4; Scholarship Teams 1,2,3, algebra, bookkeeping, English; National Honor Society 3,4.

WILLIAM McKINLEY KELLEY
Hi-Y 3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; Junior Class Play; Intramurals 2.

WILLIAM KESLER
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3; Scarlet Quill 4.

LINDA SUE KIRCHENBAUER
Band 1,2,3,4; Majorette 3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Girl's Ensemble 4; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Y-Teens cabinet 2, president 4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 4; Student Council 2,3,4; Student Council secretary 2; Excalibur Staff 4; Scarlet Quill Staff 4; Scarlet Quill assistant editor; Latin Club 4; Homecoming Queen 4; Class play 3,4; Committees, Prom 3, Ring and Pin 3, Commencement Announcement 4.





PAUL LEUEN KOUTS
Chorus 1,2; Hi-Y 3,4; Excalibur Staff 4.

VERNON ODEAN LAING
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Boys' Ensemble 3,4; Hi-Y 4; Hi-Y president 4; National Honor Society 4; Student Council 2,3,4; Excalibur Staff assistant editor 4; Class play 3,4; Scholarship Teams 2,3,4, Latin, American History, Chemistry; Prom Committee 3; Ring and Pin Committee 3; Junior Rotarian 4; Basketball 1.

JAMES HOWARD LANE
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Boys' Ensemble 3,4; Intramurals 1,2,3, 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Hi-Y 3,4.

PHYLLIS LOUISE LANE
Y-Teens 1,2; FHA 4; Excalibur Staff 4.

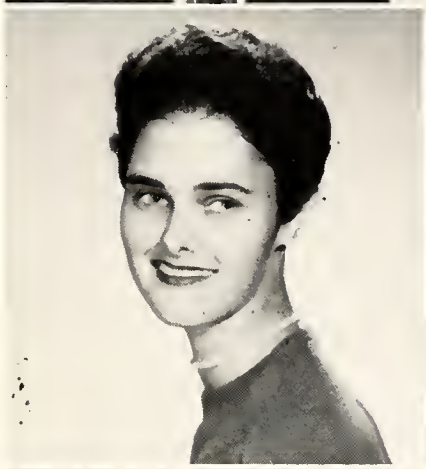
LYNNDA KAY LEAREY
Band 1,2,3,4; Majorette 2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens Cabinet 4; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 1; Latin Club 4; Junior Class Play.

LAWRENCE J. LEHMAN
Band 1,2, Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Boys' Ensemble 3,4; Hi-Y 3,4; Hi-Y vice president 4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Class Play 3,4; Prom Committee 3; Football 1,4.

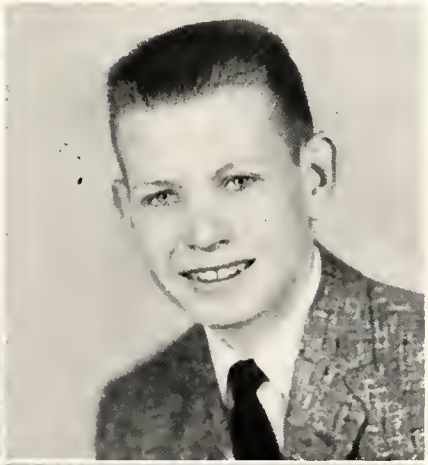
JAMES E. LEONARD
Band 1,2,3,4; Hi-Y 4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Debate Team 4; Declamation Team 4; Class Play 4; Scholarship Team, World History 2; Junior Rotarian 4; One Act Plays 3.

LARRY T. LEY
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Boys' Ensemble 4; Hi-Y 3,4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; Latin Club 4.

LINDA SUE LONGWELL
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3, 4; Y-Teens Cabinet 2, Secretary 4; Excalibur Staff 4, Art Editor; Junior Class Play; Prom Committee 3; Ring and Pin Committee 3.

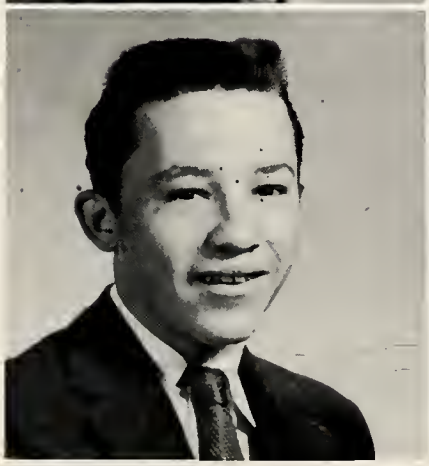


RICHARD E. McCOY
VIC 4.



MARY LOUISE MARQUIS
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Class treasurer 1; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Y-Teens Cabinet 3; GAA 1,2,3,4; GAA Cabinet 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Latin Club 4.

CHARLES RICHARD MASON
Chorus 1,2; Choir 3,4; Football 1; Excalibur Staff 4.



RICHARD E. MAZOCK
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Junior Class Play; One-act Plays.

ELAINE MERICLE
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3, 4; Y-Teens Cabinet 2; GAA 1,2,3,4; GAA Treasurer 4; Cheerleader Reserve 1,2; Varsity 3,4; Senior Class Play; Scholarship Teams 3,4 Spanish.

TOM METZGER

MARLENE SUE MIHM

MARVIN MIHM
Football, freshman 1, varsity 2,3,4; Basketball 2; V-Club 3,4; VIC 3.

LARRY KAY MILLER

RONALD BRENT MILLER
Freshman Football; Varsity Football 2,3,4; V-Club 4; VIC 3; Excalibur Staff 4; Intramurals 2.

VIRGINIA MARIE MILLER
Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; GAA 1,2,3,4; Cabinet 2,3,4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Quill Staff business manager, assistant editor 4; Declamation Team Dramatics 4; Class Play 3,4; Committees: Prom 3, Ring and Pin 3, Commencement Announcement 4.

MARY MOHLER
Chorus 2; FHA 4; VIC 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Usherettes 1,2,3; Class Play 3.

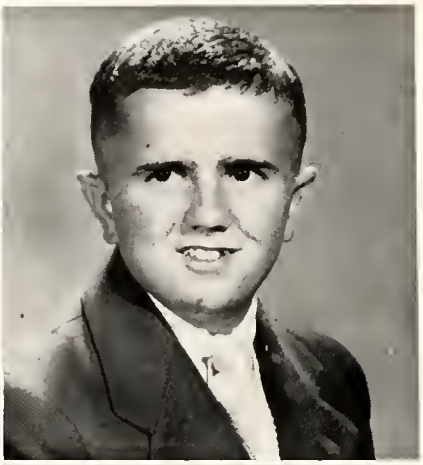
RACHEL ANN MORRIS
Band 1,2,3,4; Majorette 3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; GAA 1; National Honor Society 3,4; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 2,3,4; Excalibur Staff Business Manager 4; Latin Club 4; Class Play 3; Scholarship Team 2, English.

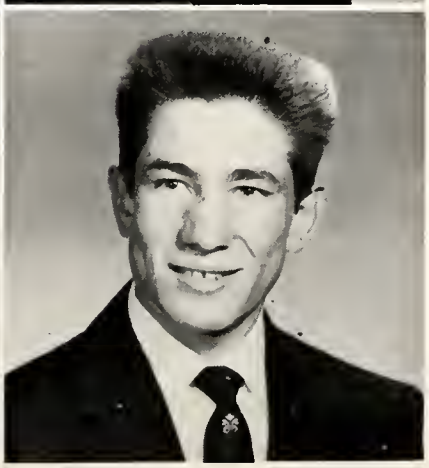
JAMES E. O'MARA
Football 3; Hi-Y 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Class Play 4; One Act Plays 3.

CHARLES G. PARSONS
Basketball and Baseball Manager 1; V-Club 1,2,3,4.

CURT PROFFITT
Basketball 1; VIC 3,4; President 4.

MARCIA LOU PUTMAN
Chorus 1,2; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; GAA 1, 2; Excalibur Staff 4; Reserve Cheerleader 2.



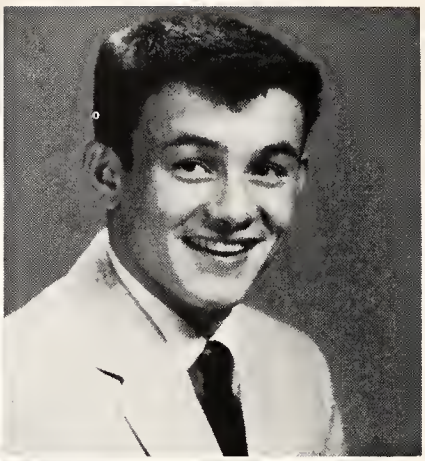


PHYLLIS ROESNER
Chorus 2; GAA 1,2,3,4.

BINALEE RUNSER
Chorus 1,2; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; GAA 1, 2,3; FHA 1; Excalibur Staff 4.

DALE E. SAAM
FFA 1,2,3.

PAUL SARGENT
Chorus 1;2; Choir 3,4; Student Council 4; FFA 1,2,3; FFA Reporter 2.

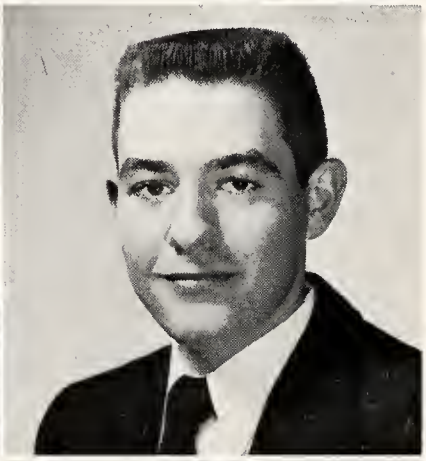


GLORIA IRENE SCHOONOVER
Usherettes 1,2,3.

KENNY SEIBERT
Basketball 1,2; Football 1; VIC 4; Prom Committee 3.

HELEN LOUISE SHAW
Band 3; Chorus 1,2; Choir 3,4.

RICHARD SHOCK
Band 1,2,3,4; Hi-Y 3,4.

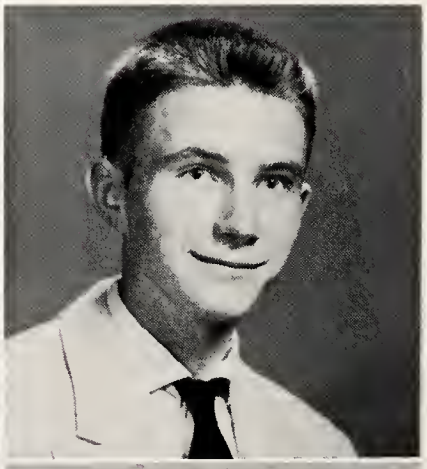


ALICE MAY SMITH
GAA 1,2; FHA 1,2.

JUSTUS SPEELMAN

YVONNE STERRETT
Senior Class Play.

ANITA LUCILLE TANNER
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Class secretary 1; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Y-Teens Cabinet 2, vice president 3; National Honor Society 3,4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 2,3,4; FTA vice president 2, president 3; Excalibur Staff Editor 4; Latin Club 4; Declamation Team 3,4; Original Oratory and Extemporaneous: Class Play 3,4; Scholarship Teams 1,2,3,4, English; Committees, Prom 3, Ring and Pin 3, Commencement Announcement 4; One Act Plays 3; One Act Play Director.



WILMA JEAN TAYLOR
Chorus 2; GAA 1,2; FHA 1,2,3.

PATRICIA L. THATCHER
Chorus 1,2.

RAY TINNEL
VIC 4; Class Plays 3,4.

PEGGY JO WABLE
Band 1,2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Class treasurer 2; Class secretary 3; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Y-Teens treasurer 2; GAA 1,2; GAA Cabinet 1; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Junior Class Play.

MITZI JANE WALDRON
Band 1,2; (Convoy) Choir 1,2; (Convoy) GAA; FHA 1,2,3; (Convoy).

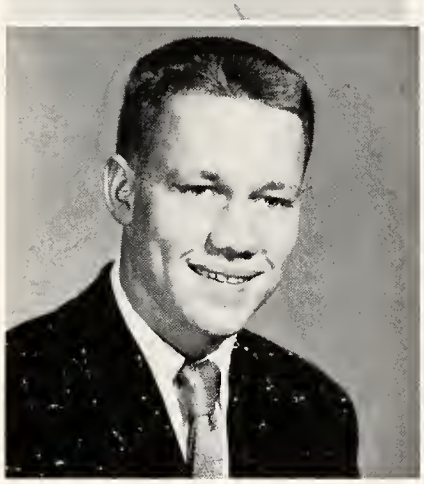
MARY LUCILLE WELLS
Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; GAA 1,2; Excalibur Staff 4; Scholarship team 2, bookkeeping.

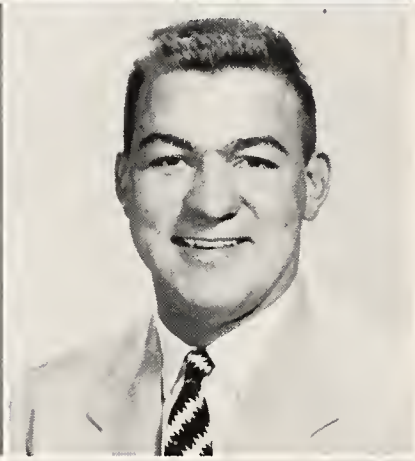
JOYCE WILLIAMS
Chorus 1,2; Choir 3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3, 4; Y-Teens Cabinet 4; National Honor Society 3,4; National Thespians 4; Masque and Gavel 4; FTA 1,2,3,4; FTA Cabinet 4; Excalibur Staff 4; Latin Club 4; Declamation Team 4, Original Oratory; Class Play 3,4; Scholarship Teams 2,4, biology and English; Prom Committee 3.

RONALD E. WILLIAMS
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Boys' Ensemble 3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; Intramurals 1,2,3,4.

PATTY LOU WILLIAMSON
Chorus 1,2; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; GAA 2, 3,4; GAA cabinet 3; Excalibur Staff 4.

CAROLYN SUE WILLIMAN
Band 1,2,3,4; Majorette 2,3,4; Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Y-Teens 1,2,3,4; Y-Teens president 2; Y-Teens cabinet 4; Student Council 1,2,3,4; Excalibur Staff 4; Rendezvous Committee 1,2,3,4; Junior Class Play; Homecoming Attendant 2,3,4; Prom Committee; Peony Queen Attendant 4; Girls' Ensemble 4.





LARRY WINHOVER
Basketball 2,3,4; Freshman Basketball 1; Baseball 1,2; V-Club 4.

JAMES WISEMAN
Chorus 1; Choir 2,3,4; Hi-T 4; FFA 1,2,3.

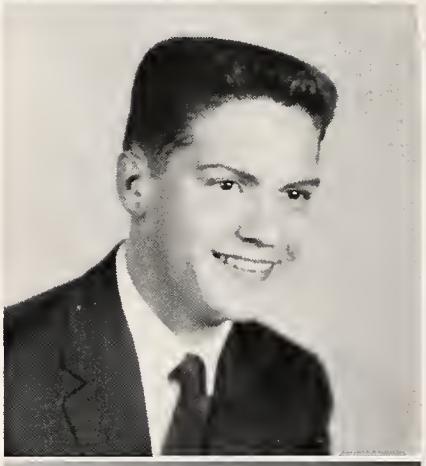
ROBERT L. WITHEROW
Basketball 1.

RAY A. YAHN
Excalibur Staff Photographer 4.

ROBERT YOUNG
Chorus 1; Football Varsity 1,2,3,4; Basketball Varsity 2,3,4; Baseball Varsity 1,2,3,4; Class President 1; V-Club 1,2,3,4; National Thespians 4; Student Council 1,2; Excalibur Staff 4, Sports Editor; Quill Staff 4; Rendezvous Committee 1,2,3,4; Senior Class Play; Committees, Prom 3, Ring and Pin 3, Commencement Announcement 4.

JUDITH MAE ZINSMEISTER
Chorus 1,2; FHA 1.

Seniors not pictured:
RICHARD EUGENE ANDERSON
JACK SAM WORTHINGTON
LARRY WILLS
Chorus 1; Baseball 1,2,4; Basketball 1; VIC cabinet 4.



Un Pont Traverse le Ciel, or A Bridge Across the Sky, was the theme for the 1956 Junior-Senior Prom. A beautiful golden bridge was the main attraction in the scene representing a park in Paris. The beautiful formals of the girls, the Grand March led by Ronnie Dierks and Carol Grindahl, and the music of Jimmy Stier and his orchestra made this a prom to remember.

Excalibur

ANITA TANNER
editor-in-chief

and

VERN LAING
associate editor

Hours, "yea-on" hours of proofin' an' spoofin' an' goofin' and here it is—the 1956 *Excalibur*. This *Excalibur*, Van Wert High School's thirty-seventh yearbook, is more than just an annual to those of us who worked toward its completion; it is our senior year in words and pictures.

This *Excalibur* is the result of the work of many persons. The memorable dance at Homecoming and the barbecue before the Toledo football game were masterminded by Rachel Morris and Vern Laing. Rachel and Jerry Gribler, our excellent business managers, planned penny lunches, headed other money-making projects, and sold and distributed yearbooks. Phyllis Gribler stayed after school every night to make selling candy a profitable enterprise. Ronnie Miller, Tom Giessler, and Jess Cooper spent more hours counting tax stamps than they care to recall. The art work throughout the book is that of Linda Longwell, and the sports pages are Bob Young's work. Frank Gilland's original announcements over the P.A. system were most effective. Mary Brooks and her aids penned and collected writeups, and Karen Katterheinrich, along with her helpers, typed and typed and typed. The wonderful cooperation of the administration, especially Mr. Baker, the help of Mr. White, Mr. Broom, and the merchants and townspeople have all meant much to us in creating this yearbook. Many persons have not been mentioned, but everyone on the staff has contributed something to help produce and finance this book.

This is your *Excalibur*, and we sincerely hope you like it.

Penny lunches, tax stamps, and selling candy earn money to produce your yearbook.

a record in words and pictures of a happy year

First Row: J. Gribler, Business Manager; R. Morris, Business Manager. Second Row: V. Laing, Assistant Editor; Anita Tanner, Editor-in-Chief. Third Row: B. Young, Sports Editor; M. Brooks, Organization Editor; L. Longwell, Art Editor.

First Row: S. Hall, M. Brooks, L. Longwell, V. Laing, A. Tanner, J. Gribler. G. Miller, S. Hallam, J. Williams. Second Row: Mrs. Burkam, H. Boroff, J. Beck, D. Eddins, P. Lane, E. Mericle, L. Eikenbary, L. Bagley, K. Katterheinrich, B. Blake, J. Gallaspie, P. Boroff, B. Gilliland. Third Row: M. Wells, M. Agler, P. Gribler, L. Kirchenbauer, S. Williman, S. Farlow, P. Wable, M. Putman, P. Williamson. Fourth Row: R. Brown, M. Marquis, B. Runser, T. Giessler, F. Gilland, B. Young, J. Lane, R. Miller, B. Kelley, R. Yahn. Fifth Row: P. Jarvis, L. Lehman, D. Dershem, D. Bricker, J. Benfield, J. O'Mara, G. Cobb, J. Cooper, P. Kouts, R. Williams, J. Leonard, B. Exline.

Most studious, Mary Brooks and Dennis Dershem.

Most likely to succeed, Anita Tanner and Jerry Gribler.

Best sense of humor, Jim Jones and Elaine Mericle.

Best figure and physique, Linda Bagley and Ray Tinnel.

Most helpful, Bill Kelley and Lynne Eikenbary.

Senior Survey

Most friendly, Vern Laing and Linda Kirchenbauer.

Best looking, Sue Williman and Tom Harden.

Best dressed, Gary Cobb and Rachel Morris.

Biggest flirts, Art Good and Shirley Dustman.

Most athletic, Phyllis Roesner and Bob Young.

Awards

Tom Harden receives the Kemper Foundation scholarship from Mr. Charles F. Ross.

American Legion Award winners Joyce Williams and Vern Laing with legionnaire Don Smith.

Mr. Livingston presents the Dannecker trophy to the outstanding senior athlete, Bob Young.

Co-valedictorians Anita Tanner and Mary Brooks receive the Black, Inc., awards from Mr. Ross.

Joyce Williams is named a state winner in the American Legion essay contest and is entitled to go to Washington, D.C.

Elaine Mericle, recipient of the Black, Inc., award for the outstanding senior in secretarial work, with Miss Eirich and Sheila Hallam, Soroptimist scholarship winner.

The top students scholastically are; First Row: Rachel Morris, Joyce Williams, Sheila Hallam, Shirley Dustman, Lynne Eikenbary, Mary Brooks, Linda Bagley. Second Row: Anita Tanner, Karen Katterheinrich, Charlene Bate, Tom Harden, Jerry Gribler, Dennis Dershem.

BOYS PLAY

Commencement — the seniors say goodbye

Although Baccalaureate was held in Lincoln Gym because of rain, the stadium was the site for the 85th annual commencement. Marching to our places in the stadium, we felt happy and expectant; but during the program as the choir sang its last number, the speaker finished, we received our diplomas, and marched back into the school, we were solemn and thoughtful, realizing that now we were on our own. As the word itself signifies, it was truly our Commencement.

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Superintendent

Mr. R. D. Bennett guides the Van Wert Public School System with patience and competence.

Mrs. Fred Eman, secretary to Mr. Bennett

School Board

P. B. Harris; Donald S. White; R. D. Bennett, superintendent of schools; Cyril Bechtol, president; Walter Witten; Hazel Gleason, vice president; F. E. Shaffer, clerk and treasurer.

Principal

Mr. C. Robert Baker, the genial but firm friend who keeps the affairs of our school running smoothly.

Mrs. Wilbur Shaw, competent secretary to Mr. Baker.

Guidance Director

Mr. Ralph Gallapoo, a friend and counselor throughout our high school days.

Faculty

More to us than just teachers

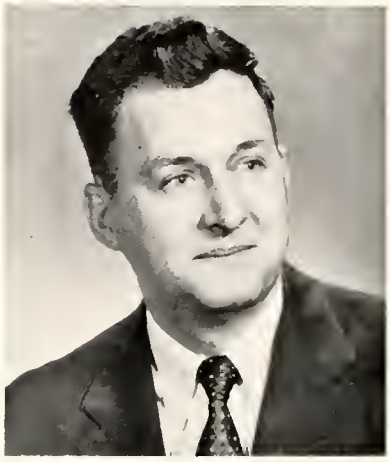
ETHEL ARMSTRONG, A.B.
Miami University, Ohio State University
Mathematics, Algebra 1, World History

JUANITA BAXTER, B.S.
Ohio State University, University of Wisconsin
Home Economics, Jr. Y-Teens adviser

GERALD D. BOWEN, B.A., M.A.
Huntington College, Ohio State University,
Bowling Green University, Ohio Northern University,
Miami University, University of Missouri
American History, Driver Education,
Junior class adviser

BERNARD A. BRICKER, B.S., M.B.A.
Bowling Green University, Toledo University
Bookkeeping I, Advanced Shorthand,
Business Machines, Office Practice, Typing II
Sophomore class adviser

JOSEPHINE BURKAM, B.A., M.A.
James Millikin University, Middlebury College
English I, Excalibur adviser



CLARENCE CLINE, B.S.
Miami University, West Virginia University
Health, Physical Education, Head Basketball Coach,
Head Baseball Coach

CLYDE E. COON, B.S., M.A.
Wittenberg, Florida Reserve, Florida State
English IV, Speech, Journalism, Scarlet Quill,
Play Director, Debate Coach

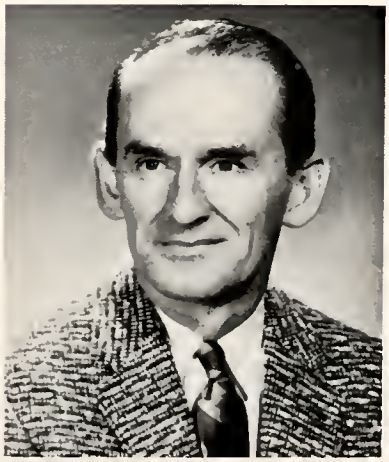
HARRY F. DAVIS, A.B.
Fairmont State College, West Virginia University,
Ohio State University
D.C.T., VIC Club Adviser

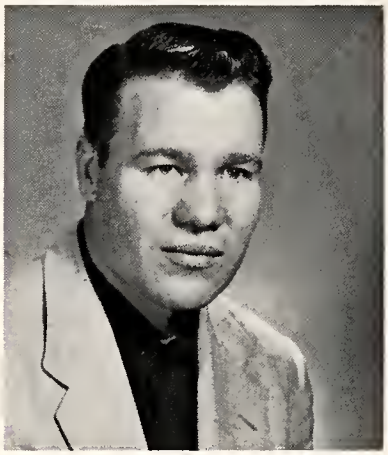
RICHARD G. DUNN, B.S.
Bowling Green University
Art

DELANA GALBREATH, B.S.
Western Kentucky College
Librarian

RALPH GALLAPOO, B.S., M.A.
Ohio Northern University, Bowling Green University
American Government, Guidance Director,
Student Council Adviser, Future Teachers Adviser,
Senior Class Adviser

H. HERBERT JONES
Bluffton College, Christiansen Choral School,
University of Michigan Band Clinic
Band, A Cappella Choir, Freshman Chorus





I. G. KATTERHEINRICH, B.S., M.A.
Bliss College, Kent State University,
University of Cincinnati
Stenography I, Typewriting I,
Faculty Manager of Athletics,
Central Treasurer of Student Activities,
Director of Student Activity Tickets Fund

NICHOLAS KLUTKA, B.A., M.A.
University of Florida, University of West Virginia
Industrial Arts, Intramurals, Assistant Football Coach

GLENN H. LIVINGSTON, A.B., M.A.
University of Michigan, Columbia University
Biology, American History, V-Club Adviser,
Visual Education

MARTHA LOWN, B.S., M.A.
Bowling Green University, Ohio State University
English II, Sr. Y-Teens Adviser

GERALD MANKEN, B.S., M.E.
Ohio State University
Industrial Arts, Hi-Y Club Adviser

G. C. MASON, B.S., M.A.
Ohio Northern University, Ohio State University
Industrial Arts, Freshman Class Adviser

JUNE MERTEN, B.S.
Wilmington College
Physical Education, Health, G.A.A. Adviser,
Cheerleader Coach

ROSS PRINCIOTTO, B.S.
Kent State University
Spanish I, II, English III

R. P. RAUCH, A.B., M.A.
Miami University, Ohio State University
Social Problems, American Government, Citizenship,
World Geography, Economics

MARY SAWYER, B.S., M.S.
Ohio University
Home Economics, F.H.A. Adviser

GILBERT E. SMITH, A.B., M.A.
Defiance College, Columbia University
Algebra I, II, Chemistry, Solid Geometry,
Trigonometry, Head Football Coach

H. B. SPIETH, B.A.
Defiance College, Bowling Green University
General Science

ELEANOR G. WHITE, B.A., M.A.
Oberlin College, Wellesley College
Latin I, II, English III, Latin Club Adviser,
National Honor Society Adviser

J. FRED WILLIAMS, B.S., M.S.
Ohio Northern University, Ohio State University
Plane Geometry, Physics, Book Store Manager,
Elementary Supervisor

Janitors Ralph Thomas, Ray Snyder, and Floyd Terry.

Bus drivers Robert Jerome and David Van Eman.

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